

Sharaa meets Gemayel's envoys

DAMASCUS (AP) — Lebanese President Amin Gemayel's closest aides conferred Friday with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa on a Syrian-proposed blueprint to end Lebanon's nearly 12-year-old civil strife. The team groups former Foreign Minister Elic Salem, Lebanon's military intelligence chief Simon Kassis and Nicolas Nasr, Mr. Gemayel's legal adviser. The trio arrived in Damascus on Thursday on the ninth such shuttle since efforts to reconcile President Hafez Al Assad and Mr. Gemayel were launched in mid-January. They held a meeting with Mr. Sharaa on Thursday and began another Friday. One Lebanese source said he expected the delegation to stay on in Damascus for another day and possibly have a third meeting with Mr. Sharaa on Saturday. The discussions have been cloaked in the utmost secrecy. Neither Syrian nor Lebanese officials would elaborate on the talks or the draft being discussed. But observers and political analysts noted that Syria's official media have for the first time reported the delegation's arrival and that it has met by Mr. Sharaa. The state radio, television and news agency had ignored all previous visits by Mr. Gemayel's aides.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Arab Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الرأى

Volume 12 Number 3429

AMMAN, SATURDAY MARCH 21, 1987, RAJAB 21, 1407

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

King sends good wishes to Tunisia

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein sent a cable of good wishes to Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba congratulating him on the occasion of Tunisia's Independence Day. In his cable the King wished President Bourguiba continued good health and happiness and the Tunisian people further progress and prosperity.

Jordan marks anniversary of Karamah Battle

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan today marks the 19th anniversary of the Karamah Battle, in which the Jordanian Armed Forces repulsed an Israeli assault across the Jordan River and achieved a decisive victory. The Israelis who entered the Jordan Valley from three crossing points on the river were planning to occupy the Jordan Valley area and the overlooking hills, in a bid to force the Jordanian government to accept Israeli conditions for a settlement to the Palestinian dispute. But the Jordanian army which fought side by side with Palestine Liberation Organisation fighters foiled the Israeli plans and inflicted heavy losses on them.

Nasouh Al Majali arrives in Cairo

CAIRO (Petra) — The director general of the Jordan Radio and Television corporation Nasouh Al Majali arrived here on Friday to represent Jordan in meetings of the executive council of the Islamic states broadcasting union which will open here Saturday with the participation of delegates from 14 Arab and Islamic countries. The two-day meeting will discuss the organisation's activities for the past year, its financial situation as well as its working plan for the next stage. The organisation was established in 1977 and is affiliated with the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC).

Militia denies holding Iranians

BEIRUT (R) — The Christian "Lebanese Forces" militia on Friday denied holding three Iranians missing in Lebanon since 1982 and said it had received no inquiries about them. "We have not been contacted on this subject," said Toufik Al Hindi, political adviser to militia chief Samir Geagea. "We do not have any hostages or detainees," he told Reuters (See related story on page 2).

Andreotti to try last-ditch plan

ROME (R) — Italy's majority Christian Democrats gave Prime Minister-designate Giulio Andreotti the go-ahead on Friday to try a last-ditch plan which would save the country from premature general elections. The Christian Democrats earlier this week seemed on the point of abandoning government-forming efforts by Mr. Andreotti, a veteran party member, after the Socialists flatly rejected his proposals to overcome the 17-day political crisis. If Mr. Andreotti gives up, general elections are almost certain to be called, a year ahead of schedule. But Mr. Andreotti persuaded the impatient Christian Democratic Party leadership on Friday to give him more time to find a solution based on compromise plans.

INSIDE

- Peres denies report of U.S. spying in Israel, page 2
- Rawabdeh outlines goals of Greater Amman Council, page 3
- Issues of development — education and the role system, page 4
- High school English curriculum — the need for revision, page 5
- Favourable teams avoid ties in Champions Cup draw, page 6
- U.N. report assails banks for prolonging Third World debt crisis, page 7
- Ariane chief hints at East bloc role in alleged spy ring, page 8

Another Saudi hostage freed

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Syrian forces on Friday obtained the release of a Saudi Arabian held captive for 54 days in Lebanon, the head of Syria's military observer team said.

"Hostage Khaled Deeb is with us here," Colonel Abdul Salam Daghistani told AP by telephone. He was reached at the headquarters of the Syrian forces in west Beirut's seaside Ramlet Al Baida district. Mr. Deeb was the second foreign hostage freed this week. Bakr Damanhour, a Saudi employee of the Saudi embassy cultural section, was freed Wednesday after 66 days in captivity. "I am very happy to be free," a clean-shaven Deeb told reporters at an afternoon conference in west Beirut.

Mr. Deeb, 23, said he was kidnapped in the predominantly Shiite slums of south Beirut by "many gunmen" Jan. 26. "They kept me blindfolded all the time, but not handcuffed. I was not beaten," said Mr. Deeb. "I don't know" was Mr. Deeb's answer to questions about the identity of his kidnappers and the location of his captivity.

Justice Minister Nabih Berri's mainstream Shiite Amal militia also played a role in Mr. Deeb's release, a spokesman said.

Mr. Deeb said he was leaving for Damascus, "immediately" for a flight to Saudi Arabia. Brig. Kanaan was present when Mr. Berri produced Mr. Damanhour at a news conference at his home in west Beirut on Wednesday.

Brig. Kanaan, who supervised the deployment of more than 7,000 Syrian troops in west Beirut last month, said he hoped more foreign hostages could soon be freed unharmed.

In another development, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has promised to help in seeking

freedom for American hostages in Lebanon but said he did not know who held them. Mr. Arafat said in a U.S. television interview from his Tunis headquarters he had been successful in winning the release of some Egyptian students and Soviet citizens and pledged "I will do my best for the others."

However, he said he had no precise information about eight American hostages and did not know which fundamentalist factions were holding them.

Asked about Anglican church negotiator Terry White who disappeared in west Beirut two months ago, Mr. Arafat replied: "I can't give you any information."

President Reagan said Thursday his predecessor Jimmy Carter, now on a tour of the Middle East, was not carrying a message from him to Syria on efforts to free foreigners held hostage in Lebanon.

But he told a televised news conference he would be grateful if Mr. Carter were to make an effort to win their freedom during a visit to Damascus this weekend.

"No," he replied when asked if Mr. Carter were bearing a message to Syria. Asked if Mr. Carter was to make an effort to free them, Mr. Reagan said, "I don't know. I wouldn't be surprised if he was and I would be grateful if he did."

Mr. Carter, who had been reported to be carrying a message from the U.S. government, was in Cairo on Friday and stressed he was travelling as a private citizen. He said he would report to the administration on his return. (See page 2).

Reagan says he will not repeat actions that led to Iran scandal

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President Ronald Reagan, showing much of his old self-confidence, has told a televised news conference he would do things differently to achieve the policy goals that led to the scandal about the sale of U.S. arms to Iran.

"No, I would not go down that same road again," he said Thursday when asked if he would again sell arms to Iran in order to establish contact with "moderate elements" in Tehran and free U.S. hostages in Lebanon.

But Mr. Reagan, appearing in control as he fielded questions publicly for the first time in four months about the scandal that has rocked his presidency, vowed to continue to seek better ties with Iran and explore "every legitimate means" to secure the release of the American hostages held by pro-Iranian elements.

Mr. Reagan, who also flatly denied he had been told that profits from the sale of U.S. arms to Iran were used to assist the U.S.-backed "contra" rebels in Nicaragua, displayed a coolness under fire that differed noticeably from his poor performance at his last news conference on Nov. 19.

After opening with a statement concerning his now-familiar stand on taxes and the budget — he opposes a tax increase and favours budget reform — Mr. Reagan responded to 13 questions and follow-ups, all but three of them on the Iran affair.

During the grilling, the 76-year-old president displayed flashes of humour as he tried to rebuild public confidence and restore his damaged credibility.

Mr. Reagan also claimed that U.S. relations with Arab states in the Middle East are the best they have been in many years, despite the U.S. arms sales to Iran.

Mr. Reagan said, "I think we have a very good relationship, better than we've had in many many decades, with the countries in the Middle East."

Mr. Reagan contended that some countries in the Middle East, as well as in Europe and the

Communist bloc, have sold Iran and Iraq many more weapons than had the United States.

Mr. Reagan said that Communist countries have sold "almost four times as much to Iraq as they have to Iran" in the past few years.

In view of that, he said, he felt the United States was "not affecting the military balance between the two countries with the small amount that we were going to sell."

Mr. Reagan told reporters his secret approach to Iran had resulted in the release of three American hostages held by pro-Iranian elements in Lebanon and repeated it might have freed more if the operation had not been made public.

He also repeated what he told a presidential review board headed by former Texas Senator John Tower — that he did not remember when he had approved the first shipment of U.S. arms to Iran through Israel in August, 1985.

But Mr. Reagan was quite positive about his memory when asked if he might have been told about the potentially illegal diversion of funds to the Nicaraguan rebels and then forgot about it. "Oh no. You would have heard me without opening the door to the office if I had been told that at any time," he replied.

The president said he learned of the transfer of the money to the rebels — which will be the top priority of congressional investigative hearings — only when Attorney General Edwin Meese told him on Nov. 25.

Asked to explain how Vice Admiral John Poindexter, his former national security adviser and Marine Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North, a former national security aide, could have done this without his authority, Mr. Reagan answered: "They just didn't tell me what was going on."

White House aides, who were clearly nervous about what was seen one of Mr. Reagan's most

Israeli jets raid disused Fateh base in Lebanon

SIDON (Agencies) — Three Israeli warplanes rocketed an abandoned Palestinian naval base south of the South Lebanon port city of Sidon on Friday, police reported.

They said the high-flying jets fired 12 rockets at the one-storey building formerly used as a training base by the mainstream Fateh faction of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Police said the target at Darb Al Sim on the southern flank of Sidon's teeming 'Ain Al Hilweh refugee camp was destroyed along with a nearby road bridge. Police and Fateh officials said there were no casualties in raid at 2:45 p.m. Israel's seventh air strike in Lebanon this year.

All said Fateh abandoned the base three months ago. The Israeli command in Tel Aviv said its pilots reported accurate hits on a guerrilla headquarters near Sidon and returned safely to base.

The raid came eight days after an Israeli soldier was killed in a firefight between guerrillas and Israeli troops in South Lebanon. The clash took place inside Israel's self-styled "security zone" in South Lebanon. The "security zone" is patrolled by the Israeli-sponsored "South Lebanon Army (SLA)" and hundreds of Israeli troops (See story on page 2).

Residents said ambulances with sirens wailing rushed to the scene, but full details of the raid were not immediately available. Local radio stations said the raiding jets met with heavy anti-aircraft machinegun fire.

crucial public appearances since he entered the White House, were elated afterwards.

"I thought it went very well," said White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater.

Mr. Reagan's last encounter with the press, on Nov. 19 before the full extent of the Iran arms affair was known, was widely regarded as a public relations disaster.

However, Mr. Reagan's reply to a shouted question as he left the White House east room could embarrass Vice-President George Bush.

When asked if the vice-president had ever objected to the clandestine Iran operation, Mr. Reagan replied: "No."

That response appeared to contradict Mr. Bush, who said at a news conference in Lansing, Michigan, on Feb. 12 that he had "expressed certain reservations on certain aspects" of Mr. Reagan's decision to sell arms to Iran.

Mr. Bush, an undeclared contender for the 1988 Republican presidential nomination, has dropped in the polls since the Iran scandal broke.

U.S. panel okays full aid to Israel, Egypt

WASHINGTON (R) — A key congressional subcommittee has endorsed President Reagan's request that Israel and Egypt receive the full \$5.3 billion in aid this coming year in the first test of support for Israel since the Jonathan Pollard spy affair. The House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East approved \$3 billion for Israel and \$2.3 billion for Egypt for the fiscal year starting Oct. 1 late Thursday and sent it along to the full committee. There had been concerns by Israeli supporters in Congress that the Pollard spying scandal and Israeli arms sales to South Africa could damage its chances of getting the full recommended allotment.

Bahrain stresses urgent need for Arab summit

Special from Bahrain

BAHRAIN Information Minister Sheikh Mohammad Ibn Mubarak Al Khalifa on Friday called for convening an Arab summit as soon as possible to review problems facing the Arab Nation and achieve an acceptable level of Arab solidarity.

In an interview with the chief editor of the Al Ra'i newspaper, Mr. Mahmoud Al Kayed and Al Ra'i columnist Khaled Mahaddin, Sheikh Mohammad said: "It's high time to convene an Arab summit to resolve Arab differences because the world will not understand or sympathise with our causes as long as the Arab World remains dismembered."

Sheikh Mohammad emphasised the need to arrive at a joint Arab formula governing Arab political action vis-a-vis major problems that the Arab Nation is facing. "The delicate situation currently prevailing in the Arab region warrants that the Arabs rise above petty differences and realise the dangerous dimensions of the current divisions which are diverting them from achieving their national goals," he said.

The Bahraini minister urged an immediate halt to the almost seven-year-old Iran-Iraq war and called for every possible effort to reach an end to the bloody conflict to avert "the unjustifiable bloodshed and the wastage of material resources in the two warring countries."

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Palestinian people including their right of self-determination and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

On Thursday, Mr. Kayed and Mr. Mahaddin were received by the emir of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa Ibn Salman Al Khalifa. The emir praised the Jordanian leadership and people and paid tribute to their distinguished role on the Arab and international levels.

The emir expressed hope that an Arab summit be convened this year "on the basis of frankness and genuine concern for solving the Arab problems and achieving national goals."

Jordan will welcome Perez de Cuellar visit

AMMAN (J.T.) — Official sources said Friday that Jordan had not received any intimation of a visit to the Middle East by United Nations Secretary-General Perez de Cuellar for talks on convening an international conference, but said the Kingdom would welcome such a move by the U.N. chief.

A senior official, asked to comment on reports from New York that Mr. Perez de Cuellar was considering a visit to the Middle East, said Jordan was not aware of any such plans. But, he said, "it will be a welcome development." The official spoke to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity.

Other sources discounted the possibility that Mr. Perez de Cuellar would visit the region before the slated April 1 meeting in Tunis of Arab foreign ministers. The Tunis meeting is expected to discuss renewed interest in convening an international conference on the Middle East under U.N. auspices, attended by all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict. The proposal for such a conference gained additional momentum after the European Community (EC) endorsed it last month.

Sources quoted by Reuters said Wednesday that Mr. Perez de Cuellar believed if there was no progress this year towards an Arab-Israeli settlement, 1988 can be counted out, because it is a presidential election year in the United States.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar, who was mandated by the U.N. General Assembly to promote the plan for a conference under U.N. auspices, has talked with members of the Security Council about the idea which Israel opposes, the sources said.

He met delegates of the five permanent members — the United States, the Soviet Union, France, Britain and China — but his talks have yet to be completed with the 10 elected members.

The source said Mr. Perez de Cuellar was intrigued by an interview this week in Tunis with Palestine Liberation Organisation

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the Soviet Union nor China has relations with the Jewish state is said still to be an obstacle to an accord on the proposal.

Secret talks on the possibility of changing that situation are reported to have taken place in New York between the Israelis and their Soviet and Chinese counterparts accredited to the United Nations.

According to an account that could not be confirmed, the Soviets suggested opening a consulate in Tel Aviv. China's response was not made known.

Asked what Mr. Perez de Cuellar believed an international conference might achieve, the source said it could identify the main elements for a possible settlement and then perhaps pass these along to working groups for detailed consideration.

The secretary general is supposed to report to the Security Council in May on his efforts. He will visit China during that month and go to the Soviet Union in June.

Bomb explodes near W. Bank settlement

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A roadside explosive charge went off near the Jewish settlement of Alfei Menashe on the Israeli-occupied West Bank late Thursday night but there were no injuries or damage, an army spokesman said.

Army investigators were conducting an investigation at the settlement, near the town of Kalkilya, the spokesman added. No further details were immediately available.

Birzeit searched

In other developments, Palestinian sources said Israeli troops carried out an extensive search Thursday night of Birzeit University in the West Bank, questioned its president and confiscated posters.

They removed copies of a university bulletin and posters carrying portraits of two students shot dead by Israeli troops during a demonstration at the university in December, the sources added.

Israeli forces took university President Gabi Baranki from his home to the campus and spent four hours searching offices while 100 soldiers surrounded the building, the sources said.

The searchers did not say what they were looking for. When asked to confirm the report, Israeli military authorities said they were unable to comment.

Jurists denounce Israel

In Geneva the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) said Friday it had protested to the Israeli government over its threats to demolish a house in the occupied West Bank because of the alleged involvement of a family member in a 1983 bombing incident.

The private Geneva-based commission said Israeli authorities proposed to destroy the top floor of a three-storey building in Ramallah, and seal the second floor, leaving only the ground floor and basement for a family of nine people.

Carter criticises Reagan for lack of diplomacy in Mideast

CAIRO (Agencies) — Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter has said that peace efforts by America's friends in the Middle East "are almost doomed to failure" because of Washington's lack of leadership.

Criticising President Ronald Reagan for an inclination to use military force rather than diplomacy to solve problems, Mr. Carter said the president has shown little enthusiasm for trying to arrange peace talks in the troubled region.

"I would like to see ... the peace process in this region pursued more vigorously," Mr. Carter told the American Chamber of Commerce in Egypt.

"I'm not here to criticise my own government, but I think it is accurate to say that most of the initiatives (to) take additional faltering steps toward productive discussions have had to originate in this region."

The Democrat from Georgia, who lost the White House to Mr. Reagan in 1980, praised such efforts by Egyptian President

Hosni Mubarak and His Majesty King Hussein which he said he or the two Republican presidents who preceded him would have nurtured.

"But these efforts are almost doomed to failure without a strong central core of partnership and encouragement from Washington. The mediation or negotiating role has to be played by some entity," Mr. Carter said.

"In previous administrations when President (Gerald R.) Ford, President (Richard M.) Nixon or I was there, ... whenever there was any person in the Middle East in a leadership capacity who wanted to take the smallest step toward peace, they knew without any doubt whatsoever that they had an eager partner in the White House ... My hope is that this kind of

commitment will be rejuvenated in Washington."

After his speech, Mr. Carter expanded on his perception of Mr. Reagan's foreign policy in reply to a question by Ashraf Ghorbal, a former Egyptian ambassador to Washington.

Mr. Ghorbal said many people in the troubled region feel that the Reagan administration gives the Middle East a lower priority than earlier administrations and asked how to get Washington interested again.

"I think that assessment is accurate," Mr. Carter said.

"President Reagan has not been inclined to use negotiation and diplomacy as a means to achieve our nation's goals nearly so much as have his Democratic and Republican predecessors. He's more inclined to exert America's military strength, either the actual use of it or the threat of it."

"When I was in office I was constantly involved in negotiations ... and this was the case

with my Republican predecessors. This has not been the case in the last six years."

"There's been more of an inclination to form a contra army and overthrow the Sandinistas, or to inject the Marines into Lebanon, and to use American battleships to shell the villages around Beirut, and so forth. This is just a different basic philosophy."

Meanwhile U.S. officials said Thursday that U.S. Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead made a secret trip to Cairo last month almost coinciding with a controversial visit there by Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

The officials, who refused to be identified, said an international conference to bring peace to the Middle East was discussed.

"They were productive and supportive of our mutual interests," one official said.

Mr. Whitehead was in Cairo on Feb. 27-28, the U.S. officials said.

Peres denies report of U.S. spying in Israel

TEL AVIV (AP) — Foreign Minister Shimon Peres denied a report Friday that the CIA engaged in spy activity against Israel in 1982.

Peres was referring to a report in the Jerusalem Post quoting an American senator as saying the CIA began a covert spy operation

in 1982, and the operation prompted Israel to recruit American Jonathan Pollard as a spy.

An Israeli legislator called on the government to stop cooperating with the United States on the Pollard affair in light of the report.

Djibouti cafe bomb said to be aimed at foreigners

DJIBOUTI (AP) — Authorities are trying to determine who was behind the bomb attack which levelled the front of a crowded, well-known cafe in this Red Sea port. Eleven people, most of them Europeans, were killed and at least 40 injured.

An official in the president's office, reached by telephone from Paris, said the attack was "clearly aimed at the foreign community, especially the French."

The official, saying he was authorised to speak to reporters on

condition he not be named, said, "we are not excluding any hypotheses. It's too soon to say anything."

Five French nationals, including four military personnel, and three West German scientists were among those killed in Wednesday evening's attack, officials said. Three Djiboutians also died.

Of the injured, 22 were French — 17 of them military personnel, the French Foreign Ministry said.

France gets Saudi sub deal

FRANKFURT, West Germany (AP) — Saudi Arabia has awarded a multibillion-dollar submarine contract to France instead of West Germany, the Frankfurter Allgemeine newspaper has reported.

The contract, which includes construction, maintenance and supply of spare parts for the submarines, is believed to be worth between 6 billion marks (\$3.3 billion) and 8 billion marks (\$4.4 billion), the newspaper said.

Quoting unidentified govern-

ment sources in Bonn, the paper said Saudi Arabia had awarded the contract to France in part because of "political considerations." It did not elaborate.

The Arab kingdom opted for French submarines also because its navy already has other French-built vessels and is used to their technology, the Frankfurt daily said.

Two West German companies, Howaldtswerke-Deutsche Werft AG and Thyssen-Werft, had been hoping to win the Saudi contract, the paper said.

CIA reportedly saw little hope for better Iran ties

NEW YORK (R) — Senior U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) officials reportedly told the White House in late 1985 that there was little prospect for improving U.S. relations with Iran, the New York Times Friday quoted the officials as saying.

The White House received the information while it was preparing its secret arms initiative to accomplish that aim, the Times report said.

The officials, Graham Fuller, then national intelligence officer, and Richard Kerr, deputy direc-

tor for intelligence, were also quoted as saying they told the White House during the same period that there was no imminent risk of the Soviet Union gaining any significant influence in Iran.

Despite the CIA's reports, Reagan officials proceeded with the covert arms sales to Iran and even wrote an intelligence "finding" in January 1986 citing the possibility of an increasing Soviet influence in the Gulf region as an important reason for the arms initiative.

Pretoria protests against limited Israeli sanctions

TEL AVIV (AP) — South Africa has formally protested Israel's decision to impose limited sanctions on Pretoria, a Foreign Ministry official said Friday.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the charge d'affaires from the South African embassy, Johann Kilian, delivered the letter of protest to Foreign Minister Shimon Peres on Thursday. He refused to comment on the letter's contents.

The Israeli decision to impose sanctions, announced Thursday by Peres, followed pressure from the United States to end military trade with the South African government because of its policy of apartheid.

The sanctions curtail trade between the countries and ban future weapons contracts, but allows existing contracts to remain in force.

South Africa is a major customer of Israel's billion-dollar-a-

year arms industry. But Israel does not discuss weapons sales and it was not known how long current contracts run or what licensing arrangements Israel has with South Africa for the manufacture of Israeli-designed weapons.

Israel delayed taking action against South Africa because of the close trade ties between the two countries and because of concern for the welfare of South Africa's 120,000 Jews.

Meanwhile, Peres invited U.S. Rep. Michael Leland who is active in the battle for sanctions against South Africa, to Israel for talks, Israel Radio reported.

"I am hopeful a trip to Israel... will give credence to discussions about greater pressures being imposed by Israel on South Africa," Mr. Leland said on the radio.

The California congressman has advocated cutting off some U.S. aid to Israel and giving it to black African countries.

Pregnancy test awaited in Israeli torture case

TEL AVIV (R) — An Israeli lawyer Friday said a pregnancy test may show a young Arab woman miscarried as a result of rough questioning by Israeli police.

Lawyer Felicia Langer, who specialised in defending Palestinians accused by Israel of security offences, said Israeli authorities Thursday allowed a Palestinian doctor of her choice to perform tests on 26-year-old Nadia Ibrahim Ayesh and results were expected soon.

Mrs. Ayesh, a medical laboratory technician from Gaza, is in prison pending charges after confessing to membership of the outlawed Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) guerrilla organisation, Ms. Langer told Reuters.

The young woman wrote in an affidavit to Ms. Langer she was several weeks pregnant when arrested on Feb. 19. She said that while awaiting interrogation, her head was covered with a cloth sack and she was left outdoors in cold weather. Mrs. Ayesh said Israeli security women cursed her, threatened to strip her and on one occasion slammed her head against a wall, Ms. Langer reported.

The young woman haemorrhaging and vomiting shortly afterwards and said she miscarried as a result, Ms. Langer said.

Police initially told reporters Mrs. Ayesh was not pregnant but have made no formal statement since Thursday's medical examination.

Ms. Langer, a member of the Moscow-aligned Israeli Communist Party, is a leading campaigner against what she says is regular brutality by police against guerrilla suspects.

Woman reports torture in SLA jail

BEIRUT (R) — A teenage Lebanese guerrilla has said Israeli plain-clothes officers watched her being whipped and tortured in a militia prison in South Lebanon.

"During investigations I was tortured with electrical shocks and whipped," said 18-year-old Milla Sofanji, who was captured by pro-Israeli South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia on Nov. 4, 1985.

"The SLA people used to torture me under the supervision of plain-clothes Israeli officers, who would stand and watch," she added.

"I constantly heard the screams and shouts of the men as they were being tortured," she told reporters at west Beirut's American University Hospital (AUH) where she underwent surgery.

The black-haired teenager,

who said she was held at the Khiam detention centre and was one of 21 women prisoners in last March 4, said she was captured near the town of Jezzine as she was preparing an attack against Israeli troops patrolling a so-called border "security zone" in South Lebanon.

"We were planning to stage a suicide attack on the patrol using a mule laden with 50 kilos of TNT," she said, adding that one colleague was shot dead in an SLA ambush and she was injured in the leg.

She said she was taken to hospital to Marjayoun village inside the "security zone."

"While I was in hospital they threatened to cut off my leg if I did not say what they wanted me to say to Israeli television, and under this threat I said what they

wanted."

She added: "I spent a lot of time in the hospital because my leg would not heal properly, but whenever I was there they tied up my other leg to the bed with an iron clamp."

Guerrillas have used donkeys and mules before in suicide missions, apparently because cars arouse suspicion and are routinely searched by the SLA and their Israeli allies.

Sofanji thanked Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and Brigadier Ghazi Kanaan, Syria's military intelligence chief in Lebanon, for having arranged surgery for her at AUH.

Sources in South Lebanon say more than 300 people are held in Khiam jail, which humanitarian organisations have not been allowed to visit.

U.S. claims Libya planning attacks

WASHINGTON (R) — A U.S. official has said that Libya may be stepping up plans for attacks but that there is no proof Syria has moved to free hostages since it deployed troops in Beirut.

In a wide-ranging talk to foreign correspondents, Paul Bremer, head of the State Department's "counter-terrorism" office, raised the possibility that kidnapped Saudi diplomat freed Wednesday in Beirut may have been ransomed.

He also said the United States had no proof Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite was held at Iran's Beirut embassy, as a Soviet

magazine reported.

Mr. Bremer said U.S. intelligence detected a marked decline in Libya's terrorist activities after the United States bombed Libya last April in retaliation for its alleged involvement in the bombing of a West German discotheque.

But that trend reversed in August and U.S. officials have found "the Libyans are becoming active again in the last six to eight weeks in planning," he said.

Washington has asserted that Syria automatically accepted increased responsibility for hostages held in Beirut when it de-

played forces there last month to end factional violence.

But despite hints Syria would try to intervene with various groups claiming to hold the hostages and secure their release, "in the last few months, we've seen no signs that the Syrians have changed their policy," Mr. Bremer said.

A Shi'ite Muslim official in Lebanon, Nabih Berri, said his Amal militia and Syrian security officials helped gain release of Saudi diplomat Bakr Damanhuri, who was held for 66 days.

But Mr. Bremer said Syria's exact role, if any, was not known.

Iranian Majlis approves higher war spending

LONDON (R) — Iran's budget for the new fiscal year starting on Saturday forecasts revenue of \$30.3 billion, a 15 per cent increase from this year, figures published by the Iranian news agency IRNA show.

IRNA, quoting figures supplied by the head of the Majlis (parliament) Budget and Plan-

ning Committee, said expenditure for the war with Iraq was by \$3.6 billion, but gave no overall figure.

Oil revenue has been set at \$11.74 billion, with average exports of 1.5 million barrels per day (BPD) at \$16 per barrel. Iran's current output quota within the Organisation of Pet-

roleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is 2.225 million BPD. Official prices for Iranian light and heavy crude are \$17.50 and \$16.89 per barrel respectively.

Revenue also includes \$15.6 billion in taxes, up 10 per cent from this year, and \$13.34 billion in what IRNA terms bank loans.

Iranian opposition intensifies campaign against government

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iranian dissidents have said they have killed at least 130 security men in an escalating guerrilla campaign and the Tehran government claimed 700 leftists were rounded in a crackdown on Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's opponents.

The leftist Mujahadeen Khalq, or people's warriors, said in a statement teleaxed to the Associated Press in Nicosia from their Baghdad headquarters that their fighters attacked three bases of Khomeini's Revolutionary Guards in western Iran Wednesday.

There was no way independently to verify the claim and Iran's state-run media made no comment.

But the reported attacks and Tehran's announcement that it had smashed a network of the Fedayeen Khalq, another leftist urban guerrilla faction, indicated a swelling campaign by Iranian opposition groups seeking to top-

ple Khomeini's stern Islamic regime.

The government claimed on Feb. 23 that it had captured 1,000 Mujahadeen "counter-revolutionaries" as they infiltrated across the border from Pakistan.

Thursday's Mujahadeen statement said 60 Revolutionary Guards, staunch supporters of Khomeini, were wounded in the fighting around bases in Sar-E-Pol-E-Zahar in Bakhtiari province and Ghareh Tapeh River near Dehloran in Ilam province Wednesday.

The Mujahadeen, biggest and most active of Iran's opposition groups, has intensified its campaign of assassinating Iranian officials and attacking security forces over the last few months.

Iranian embassy in Beirut denies holding Terry Waite

BEIRUT (AP) — The Iranian embassy has denied a Soviet report that missing Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite was being held at the mission in mainly Muslim west Beirut.

"We announce to the whole world that reports circulating here and there have no connection with the embassy of the Islamic Republic in Beirut," the embassy said in a statement Thursday.

The Soviet weekly Literaturnaya Gazeta said Wednesday that Mr. Waite, missing since Jan. 20, was at the Iranian embassy in Beirut.

"What is he doing there? Is he continuing talks on secret supplies of U.S. arms to Iran, despite the Irangate scandal?" the magazine asked in a two-paragraph item.

The Soviet media has claimed that Mr. Waite was linked to the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). The allegation has been strongly denied by Archbishop of

Canterbury Robert Runcie.

Mr. Waite disappeared after leaving his west Beirut hotel to negotiate with hostage-holders.

He was on his fifth visit to Lebanon since November 1985 in an effort to release American and other foreign captives, most of them held by pro-Iranian Shi'ite Muslim extremists.

Meanwhile Syrian forces controlling west Beirut have threatened severe punishment if any of the foreign hostages held in Lebanon are killed, police said.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said one result of the Syrian threat was Tuesday's announcement by the Revolutionary Justice Organisation that it had put off for a week its plans to kill French hostage Jean-Louis Normandin.

The group, believed made up of Shi'ite extremists loyal to Iran's Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, had made three threats in six days to "execute" the 35-year-old Frenchman.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	23:00	Country Music
7:11-11:19	24:00	Close Down
PROGRAMME ONE		
15:30	06:00	Newsweek 06:30 Here's Humph
15:35	06:30	World News 07:00 24 Hours
16:15	07:00	News Summary 07:30 About Britain
16:55	07:30	The World Today 08:00 Newsweek
17:20	08:00	08:30 Meridian 09:00 World News
18:00	08:30	09:30 World News 10:00 24 Hours
18:30	09:00	From the Weeklies 09:45 Network UK
19:00	09:45	10:00 World News 10:30 Reflections
19:30	10:00	11:15 A Jolly Good Show 11:30 World
20:00	10:30	News Today 11:30 Financial
20:30	11:00	The World Today 11:30 Financial
21:00	11:30	News: Look Ahead 11:45 About Britain
21:30	12:00	12:00 News Summary: Here's
22:00	12:30	Humph 12:45 Letter from America
22:30	13:00	23:30 People and Politics 13:00 World
23:00	13:30	News 13:45 News About Britain 14:15
23:30	14:00	Great Organists Play Back 14:30 Meridian
24:00	14:30	14:45 Radio Newsworld 14:55 Sports
24:30	15:00	Roundup 15:30 World News 15:45 24
25:00	15:30	Hours: News Summary 15:30 Network
25:30	16:00	UK 15:45 Country Style 16:00 News
26:00	16:30	Summary: Album Time 16:30 Saturday
26:30	17:00	Special 17:40 Radio Newsworld 17:15
27:00	17:30	Saturday Special 18:00 World News
27:30	18:00	18:00 Commentary 18:15 Saturday
28:00	18:30	Special 19:00 News Summary: Saturday
28:30	19:00	Special 19:45 Sports Round-up
29:00	19:30	20:00 Newsweek 20:30 Play of the
29:30	20:00	Week: Intimate Exchanges 21:00 News
30:00	20:30	Summary: A View from the Mountain
30:30	21:00	22:00 World News 22:30 Jazz for the
31:00	21:30	Asking 22:30 People and Politics 24:00 World
31:30	22:00	News
32:00	22:30	VOICE OF AMERICA
32:30	23:00	MW 1200 & SW 7200, 9565, 11740,
33:00	23:30	11925 and 15210 Hz
33:30		
34:00	05:00	News 05:10 VOA Morning 05:30
34:30	05:30	News Summary/VOA Morning 06:00
35:00	06:00	News 06:10 VOA Morning 06:30 News
35:30	06:30	Summary/VOA Morning 07:00 News
36:00	07:00	07:10 VOA Morning 07:30 News
36:30	07:30	Summary/VOA Morning 08:00 News
37:00	08:00	08:10 Closeup 08:30 News Summary/
37:30	08:30	VOA Morning 17:00 News 17:10 The
38:00	09:00	Week 17:30 Press Conference USA
38:30	09:30	28:00 News 18:10 American Viewpoints
39:00	10:00	28:30 Special English News 29:00
39:30	10:30	Features 19:40 News 19:10 Weekend
40:00	11:00	29:00 News 20:10 Closeup 20:30 Special
40:30	11:30	English News & Features 21:00
41:00	12:00	News 21:10 American Viewpoints
41:30	12:30	21:30 Press Conference USA 22:00
42:00	13:00	News & Editorial 22:15 Music USA
42:30	13:30	Jazz 22:40 News 23:10 Weekend

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS	EXHIBITIONS
	An exhibition of paintings by Adam
	Yahya at the Alfa Art Gallery, Jabel
	Amman, last Circle (until Mar 23).
	An exhibition of photographs by
	L'Orville at the French Cultural
	Centre (until March 27).
	FILM
	A film followed by discussion by the
	Jordan Cinema Club at 10:00 p.m. at
	the Royal Cultural Centre.
	LECTURE
	A lecture on the Gulf Cooperation
	Council (GCC) by Dr. Mohammed Al
	Rumayh, editor-in-chief of the Al Anba
	magazine at 5:00 p.m. at the Scientific
	and Cultural Centre of Abdul
	Hamid Shoman Foundation in
	Shuqbat.
	CULTURAL CENTRES
	Royal Cultural Centre - Tel. 6610267
	American Centre - 643771
	British Council - 6361478
	French Cultural Centre - 637009
	Goethe Institute - 641993
	Soviet Cultural Centre - 642049
	Spanish Cultural Centre - 639777
	Turkish Cultural Centre - 665195
	Hayy Arts Centre - 6671816
	Hussein Youth City - 641793
	Y.W.C.A. - 664251
	Amman Municipal Library - 637111
	Univ. of Jordan Library - 843555
	MUSEUMS
	"Children's Heritage and Science
	Museum" Fun and knowledge for all
	ages, plus a small planetarium at the
	Hayy Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00
	a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00
	p.m. Closed on Friday.
	Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes
	over 100 years old. Also mosaics from
	Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06) 33200-5, where it should always be verified.

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

04:05	Belgrade (JU)
06:20	Frankfurt (LH)
07:00	Baghdad (IA)
12:20	Cairo (MS)
15:00	Kuwait (KU)
15:45	Kuwait (KU)
16:40	Riyadh (SV)
19:30	Baghdad (IA)

ARRIVALS

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

06:45	Samsa (RJ)
07:05	Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
07:00	Athens (RJ)
07:30	Cairo (RJ)
08:00	Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
09:00	Damascus (RJ)
09:30	Dhahran, Kuwait (RJ)
10:05	Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)
17:00	Larnaca (RJ)
17:20	Cairo (RJ)
17:25	New York, Vienna (RJ)
18:05	Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
19:00	Tripoli (RJ)
01:00	Baghdad (RJ)

PRAYER TIMES

06:15	Fajr
05:37	Sunrise (Sunrise)
11:43	Dhuhr
15:18	Asr
17:45	Maghrib
19:08	Isha

MONEY EXCHANGE

Thursday rates

Local sell/buy rates in Jls

Belgian franc	88.6/ 89.5
Dutch guilder	162.6/ 164.2
French franc	33.2/ 33.8
Italian lire	25.3/ 26.1
Japanese yen (for 100)	222/ 224.2
Swedish crown	52.6/ 53.1
Swiss franc	219.5/ 221.7
U.K. sterling pound	337.8/ 345.9
U.S. dollar	337.1/ 339.7
W. German mark	183.7/ 185.6

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

02:45	Belgrade (JU)
11:35	Cairo (MS)
13:45	Kuwait (KU)
14:05	Tripoli (RJ)
15:10	Riyadh (SV)
17:15	Paris, Damascus (AF)
18:25	Amsterdam, Larnaca (KLM)
18:30	Baghdad (IA)
19:25	Rome, Damascus (AZ)
21:00	Frankfurt (LH)

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

An increase in temperature is expected, with the appearance of high clouds. Winds will be southeasterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.

	Min./max. temp.
Amman	3/ 17
Aqaba	12/ 23
Deserts	2/ 19
Jordan Valley	5/ 22

Yesterday's high temperature: Amman 14, Aqaba 19. Humidity readings: Amman 35 per cent, Aqaba 46 per

DEPARTURES

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

06:45	Aqaba (RJ)
11:00	Vienna, New York (RJ)
11:00	Tripoli (RJ)
11:30	Paris (RJ)
11:45	Rome, Madrid (RJ)
12:00	Geneva, London (RJ)
12:10	Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ)
13:00	Larnaca (RJ)
13:30	Cairo (RJ)
19:30	Kuwait (RJ)
20:30	Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
21:00	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
21:05	Jeddah (RJ)
21:00	Baghdad (RJ)

Rawabdeh outlines projects and plans of Greater Amman Council

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Greater Amman Council (GAC) Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh has said that he expected the council's fiscal budget to reach JD 30 million. "The budget has not yet been drafted, but I expect it to reach JD 30 million," Mr. Rawabdeh told a press conference on Thursday.

"The former Amman Municipality budget, which grouped nine districts, was put at JD 25 million for 1986 and with the new area additions, I expect it to reach this sum," he said, adding that the GAC's revenues come from fees for public services, licensing, JD 2 million from revenues on crude oil and a JD 3 million government subsidy.

The four-year term GAC groups 14 municipalities and 11 villages around Amman. It was formed in January 1987 after Parliament introduced necessary amendments to the 1987 municipal law and a Royal Decree named 51 senior Jordanian officials, heads of municipalities and villages, notables and private sector figures as members of the council.

The GAC, he said, was a pioneering model in developing local administration and in setting up a precedent for a regional planning unit.

Its present duties, which are carried out in cooperation with the Ministry of Planning, follow a two-pronged approach: to offer municipal services such as paving roads, pavements etc., and to revive the cultural and artistic heritage such as holding festivals and opening new libraries, said Mr. Rawabdeh.

The GAC was set up in response to the rapid population growth, the spread of unplanned urbanisation, rendering the provision of public services and planning for urban schemes difficult to achieve, and to remove duplicity of work amongst the concerned municipalities.

Two stages

The council will undergo two transitional stages before the process is completed. The first stage started with the council's formation and involves the take over of duties in the areas included. During this four-year stage, member municipalities will be dissolved and lands allotted in accordance with population and size. The second stage paves the way for the transformation of the GAC areas into new municipalities and citizens will elect their own leaders.

Later, a council for the Greater Amman area will be formed including all municipalities and heads of planning and services departments in the government.

In reply to a question, Mr. Rawabdeh said the final form of

the council will be nine sub-municipalities to offer public services and the central municipality, to function as a regional planning unit for all areas.

He expected that the current municipal law would be amended to enable leaders of the nine sub-municipalities to be elected by their constituents and later become members of the GAC.

Mr. Rawabdeh's almost two-hour meeting with the press, his first following the council's creation, also touched on the services offered to Amman's eastern areas, traffic congestion in the downtown area, licensing fees, road intersection projects and present plans. Mr. Rawabdeh has been serving as mayor since 1983.

Various press columns and complaints lodged by citizens in the capital's eastern sector — Marka, Nuzha, Nasr, Wihdat etc., have pictured Amman Municipality as failing to provide the same standard of services as in Amman's western areas of Shmeisani, Abdoun, etc.

The capital's population is estimated at one million, with over 60 per cent of the population in the capital's eastern sectors.

Refuting these allegations, Mr. Rawabdeh said that the volume of public services offered to the eastern area quantitatively exceeded those offered to the western side. Amman Municipality "can not be better" than the eastern sector on the level as that of the western side due "to the building modes followed in that area and because of it being one of the capital's oldest quarters," he said.

"The way people live in the western sector, the social infrastructure," does not concern the GAC, which is mainly responsible for offering public services, Mr. Rawabdeh said.

"The difference in the way of life on both sides is determined by the social infrastructure. But that does not suggest that people in the western quarter are richer than those living on the eastern end. They might be equally rich, but the difference is their social way of living, which does not concern the GAC, whose prime responsibilities centre on offering public services," he said.

In response to suggestions that building licence fees required by the GAC at present are higher than those asked for by the previous municipalities, the mayor said such remarks were untrue. "In fact, licensing fees asked for by the GAC are much lower than those taken by the previous municipalities," he said.

He showed reporters a balance sheet on fees for building licences in the GAC — whose total area covers 510 square kilometres — to support his remarks.

The GAC's asphaltting programme for this year entails asphaltting and maintaining a total area of two million square metres, Mr. Rawabdeh revealed that the GAC's motto for this

year was "1987: A year for safe traffic."

Traffic lights, signs

Explaining more, he said the GAC will mark with cat-eyes a total of 120 kilometres of road networks, will set up new traffic lights and traffic signs, will mark lanes on roads, as well as building pavements and road islands.

The GAC, he said, was preparing the traffic signs in its own workshop and in accordance with international standards for these signs. He said the Prime Ministry on Wednesday endorsed a new short and long term scheme for the organisation of traffic in the downtown area at costs of JD 2 million and JD 20 million respectively.

The Cabinet's endorsement of the two-phase plan was based on recommendations made by the GAC's technical committee in charge of forming a comprehensive development plan for the Greater Amman area until the year 2005.

New garbage dump

He also said that a new 1,000 dunum garbage dump has been selected in the area between the Ruseifa phosphate mines and Zarka to be used in the coming six months. The new site, to replace a 20-year old garbage dump will use the process of land-fill dumping after garbage is compressed. He said expenses for garbage collection and dumping at the present site cost almost JD 3.5 million a year.

On possible plans for a comprehensive rain-water drainage system for the Amman area, Mr. Rawabdeh said a preliminary study for solving the problem showed that a total of JD 400 million was needed to implement such a system. But based on our lists of priorities, such a comprehensive scheme is not feasible. Therefore, we have set up a department for water construction to offer partial solutions and services to rain water accumulation in a number of the area's quarters at an annual cost of JD 200,000, he continued.

Following the press conference, Mr. Rawabdeh and a number of the Greater Amman Municipality officials accompanied reporters on a field trip to projects launched by the municipality. The tour included visits to the 12 dunum Hashimieh park in downtown Amman, the new taxi and bus parking area, a site to upgrade the army's road near the Mahatta area, the Mahatta comprehensive commercial centre, Al Nasr integrated community service centre which is run by the Nasr ladies' society, and the new Basman district building which will serve as a model for future town halls and municipality buildings, and the work site of the sports city road intersection project.



Crown Prince Hassan marks 40th birthday

AMMAN (J.T.) — Friday March 20 marked the 40th birthday of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. Born in Amman on March 20, 1947, Prince Hassan is the youngest brother of His Majesty King Hussein and heir to the throne. He was educated at Harrow and Christ Church, Oxford, England from where he graduated in 1967 with a B.A. honours in Oriental Studies.

Prince Hassan has played an active role in Jordan's political, economic, military and social affairs. Prince Hassan holds the rank of honorary general of the Jordanian Armed Forces.

Prince Hassan is married to Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath and they have four children: Princess Rahma, Princess Sumaya, Princess Badiya and Prince Rashid.

Prince Hassan's mark on the revitalisation of Jordan's economy has been appreciated at home and abroad. He chairs the board of trustees of the Arab Thought Forum which is a non-governmental organisation established upon his initiative in 1981. This forum is concerned with the

challenges facing the Arab World within the intellectual, cultural and developmental fields.

Prince Hassan's efforts have also focused on the Palestine question and he has made detailed studies on the issue. He is considered an authority on subjects connected with the Israeli occupation of Arab land and the situation in the occupied territories.

His Majesty King Hussein on Wednesday conferred on Prince Hassan the Al Hussein Ibn Ali Medal in recognition of his continued efforts in serving the country and the Arab and Islamic cause.

On the occasion of his birthday, Prince Hassan received congratulatory cables from the prime minister, the speaker of the Upper House of Parliament, the deputy speaker of the Lower House of Parliament, ministers, the chief Islamic Justice, the mayor of Greater Amman, the governor of Amman, the chief of Public Security Department, the deputy head of the Civil Defence and other officials.

Aid fund to invest JD 470,000 in development projects

AMMAN (Petra) — The National Aid Fund (NAF) board of directors has decided to invest JD 470,000 in Jordanian development projects in order to generate income to help finance the fund's various services to needy people.

The council's decision said that JD 200,000 will be invested in real estate, shares of different companies, the Jordan Cement Industry Factory, the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company, the Jordanian Phosphate Mines Company, the aluminium industries and in the purchase of Cen-

tral Bank development bonds.

At a later stage the NAF will deposit JD 270,000 in Jordanian banks for periods running up to six months as the search for other areas of investments continue, the council's statement said on Thursday.

The decision was taken at a meeting held under the chairmanship of Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan. It said that the JD 470,000 sum will come from the NAF's budget for the current year.

Sudanese delegation leaves after signing \$20m trade agreement

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Sudanese trade and economic delegation has left for home at the end of a four-day visit to Jordan and talks on promoting Sudanese-Jordanian trade relations which culminated in signing a protocol on regulating trade.

Under the terms of the protocol, the two countries agree to exchange goods worth \$20 million shared equally between them over a period of one year.

The protocol, which will be implemented through the Jordanian Trade Centres Corporation, provides for Jordan to import

Sudanese sesame, raw leather, white corn, mango juice concentrates, cotton and spices. In return, Sudan will purchase Jordanian pharmaceutical products, construction materials, clothes, electrical appliances and household equipment.

The two sides agreed to hold meetings in Amman and Khartoum every four months in order to up-date the protocol. The protocol will be automatically renewed annually unless either side decides to terminate it. They also reached agreement on arrangements for settling the payment of

imported goods through Jordan's Petra Bank and the Nilein Bank in Sudan.

The protocol was signed by Under Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade Mohammad Al Saqqaf and his Sudanese counterpart, Mr. Omar Abu Zaid.

During their stay in the Kingdom, the Sudanese delegation members toured industrial businesses and held talks with government officials, the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Industry and Trade and Jordanian businessmen.

Dudin, Khatib brief Soviet team on occupied territories

AMMAN (Petra) — A Soviet delegation from the Institute of African Studies in Moscow on Thursday held talks with Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin and Minister of Information Mohammad Al Khatib. The talks centred on the Middle East issue, current developments and initiatives for a lasting peace.

Mr. Dudin spoke about Jordan's continued aid to the people of the occupied Arab territories to enhance their steadfastness in the face of Israel's inhuman measures. The minister also reviewed the continued aid and services Jordan extends to Palestinian refugees in the East Bank in cooperation with United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).

The minister also spoke about Israel's drive to evict the indigenous Arab population from their homeland, its confiscation of Arab territory and homes and its attempts to change the character of the Arab territory. So far, he said, the Israelis have set up 195 settlements on Arab land on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, housing more than 200,000 new Jewish settlers. The Israelis have confiscated nearly half of the total area of land owned by Arab people in the territory under their control.

For this reason, Mr. Dudin said Jordan plans to implement a five-year economic and social development plan to help improve the living conditions of the Arab people under Israeli rule and the Kingdom will continue the drive to achieve a lasting settlement through an international conference which could help implement United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

During their meeting with Mr. Khatib, the delegation were briefed on the Arab-Israeli conflict and the need for convening an international conference to settle the Palestine problem.

Road accidents, food poisoning claim 10 lives

AMMAN (J.T.) — The past week witnessed the death of nine persons and the injury of many others in road accidents and as a result of food poisoning.

One of the road accidents involved a bus carrying school girls and their teachers on an outing in the north of the country. The accident, which occurred on the Irbid-Himneh road on the return journey, resulted in the death of the driver 40-year-old Hussein Abdul Hadi and the injury of 23 teachers and students, all from the Mazar girls school.

In another incident, one student from Ibn Zaidoun preparatory school in Irbid died and 13 of his friends were taken to hospital in Ma'an as a result of food poisoning during a trip to Petra. The body of the student, Hikmat Midhat, was brought to Amman's Al Bashir hospital for an autopsy

and the remainder of the students, who said they had eaten canned food, are being treated at Ma'an government hospital. Dr. Tareq Afram, who supervised the treatment at the hospital, said that all except one student remained for further treatment for food poisoning.

The Public Security Department (PSD) issued a bulletin reporting the death of seven people and the injury of 118 as a result of 299 road accidents in the Kingdom. The weekly report said that 192 accidents took place in the Amman region, 25 in Zarqa, 25 in Irbid, 18 in the Badia, 11 in Karak, 11 in Balqa, seven in Tafleh and three in Aqaba districts. The report said that the figures register a drop of 4.1 per cent over the figures for the previous week.

Ministry completes study on energy saving in industry

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources has completed a 12-month detailed study on the saving and rationalisation of energy consumption in large factories and industrial companies. According to the study, its recommendations, if implemented, could save JD 2.5 million annually as a result of a reduction in energy consumption by some industries.

The study, prepared in cooperation with a world consulting company, covered the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company (JPRC), the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC), the Jordan Lime and Bricks Company, the Jordan Glass Factories Company, the Jordan Ceramic Factories Company, the Jordan Cement Factories Company (JCFC), the Arab Potash Company and the National Iron and Steel Company.

The study came up with several

recommendations which it said would save energy consumption at these industries. The recommendations included: reducing wasted thermal energy by using good thermal insulation, modernising the equipment used, replacing old equipment which consumes large amounts of energy, improving operation techniques as well as exploiting the heat of exhaust gas in heating primary materials, besides other measures.

A number of companies covered in the study have started taking measures and preparing the necessary technical designs to implement the recommendations of the study.

The Arab Potash Company, the National Iron and Steel Company and the Jordan Lime and Bricks Company, for instance, expect to save JD 819,000 annually as a result of applying the recommendations of the Ministry of Energy study.

NEWS IN BRIEF

UNESCO envoy concludes visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Professor Edward Bonnet, an envoy from the Paris-based United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) left Amman on Friday after a week-long fact finding visit to Jordan. During his visit Prof. Bonnet met with a number of Jordanian officials to find out about Israeli violations and malpractices against educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories.

AOAS opens 41st session today

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Organisation of Administrative Sciences (AOAS) will open its 41st session today in Aqaba. During its five-day meetings the council will discuss a number of topics including a report on the organisation's achievements over the past year. A new director general for the organisation, which groups 20 Arab states, will be elected during the meetings.

Arab jurists' bureau convenes today

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Jurists Association (JJA) will take part in the meetings of the Arab jurists union permanent bureau which will open today in the Iraqi capital of Baghdad. During its three-day meetings, the bureau will discuss the current Arab situation and the union's stand on these issues. Participants will also discuss holding seminars on the independence of a unified Arab civil law and trade union freedom. A new secretary general and two assistant secretaries general for the union will be elected during the meeting.

Haj Hassan meets power station workers

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan on Thursday met with a delegation representing the union of workers in Egyptian power stations. The delegation's leader paid tribute to Jordan for employing Egyptian workers and the hospitality accorded to them in the Kingdom.

Egyptian delegation visits ATPS

AQABA (Petra) — A delegation from the Egyptian Electricity Authority currently on a visit to Jordan, on Thursday called at the Aqaba Thermal Power Station (ATPS), toured the installations and met with engineers and officials. The station, which is in its initial stage, operates two units and has a capacity of 130,000 kilo watts. The delegation is currently in Jordan for talks with Jordanian government officials at the Jordan Electricity Authority on preparatory work for linking national grids of Egypt and Jordan.

45% of work completed on intersection projects

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Forty-five per cent of work on the construction of two interchanges near the Sports City junction and at the Ministry of Interior Circle has been completed and Jordanians will be using the first intersection by the end of October and the second site by the end of December, according to the officials in charge of the project.

Work on those two intersections started in October 1985 and was due to be completed in 20 months. However, designs for the two intersections were amended

— after the contract was signed and before the execution started — to incorporate two lane bypasses on each side of the projects instead of the previous one lane road plans.

These changes have increased both the price of the estimated JD 5 million project and its period of completion by 35 per cent, said Greater Amman Council Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh during a meeting with press representatives on Thursday.

The World Bank is financing the project which is being implemented by the Uttam Singh Dugal Company of India.

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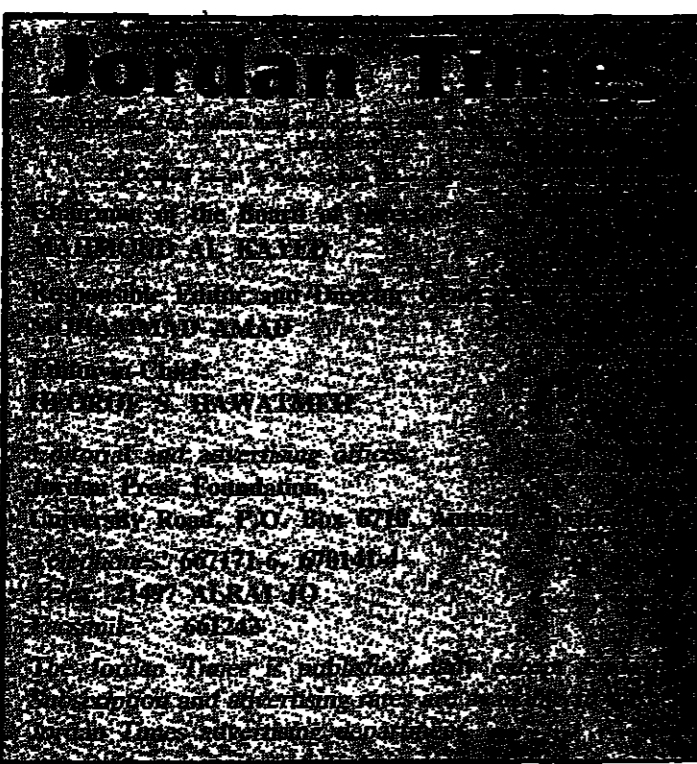
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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: U.N. takes the initiative

NO one doubts the good intentions of the secretary general of the United Nations nor does anybody cast any suspicion on his attempts and his real efforts designed to convene the Middle East International conference. Therefore it is quite natural for the secretary Mr. De Cuellar to contemplate a visit to the region in implementation of a recommendation by the United Nations General Assembly to help improve chances for peace by holding intimate talks with leaders of the concerned parties. We believe that Mr. De Cuellar will focus most of his attention during the projected visit on convincing Israel to give up its intransigent stand and take up a positive attitude towards the proposed conference, which is being opposed by the Israeli leaders and the United States alone among world nations. The coming visit and the efforts to change the Israeli attitude is a move directed towards Washington as well because it has been supporting Israel's ideas concerning the conference and backing its call for direct negotiations with the Arabs. Mr. De Cuellar no doubt wants Washington to play a key role in settling the issue and bringing about a lasting peace to the region. The European Community which has already voiced support for the conference should now give Mr. De Cuellar all the backings he needs for his endeavour and try to persuade Israel and the United States to change their negative stands.

Al Dustour: De Cuellar visiting Mideast

A visit to the Middle East region which U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar intends to make is a positive step aimed at giving the peace process further momentum. Mr. De Cuellar's coming visit is also a means for persuading all parties to speed up efforts for holding the long awaited international conference. But it should be pointed out that Mr. De Cuellar's efforts would not achieve success if the Israelis continue to adhere to their negative stand with regard to that conference. To prepare for his visit, Mr. De Cuellar has already met with representatives of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and is taking extra measures for reviving all endeavours aiming to holding the projected conference. His moves come close on the heels of a decision by the European Community, supporting the proposed conference and encouraging world leaders to help achieve peace in the Middle East. King Hussein's endeavours have won the backing of the European Community and his relentless efforts are bound to win the support of the United Nations and all its Security Council members. The King's efforts are concentrating on convening this conference because all parties concerned with the Middle East conflict can discuss the problem and implement the Security Council Resolution 242 which paves the ground for a lasting peace.

Sawt Al Shaab: Preparing for peace

UNITED Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar plans to visit the Middle East region before May, thus reviving the world organisation's efforts for finding a lasting peace for the Palestine problem. The visit is no doubt a new serious attempt to persuade the Israelis to accept the idea of the international conference for the sake of achieving a lasting peace. Mr. De Cuellar realises that his mission is not an easy one and his findings will have to be included in his report to the U.N. General Assembly which entrusted him with the new effort. Mr. De Cuellar will find the Arabs quite ready to respond favourably to all bids for peace but he will be confronted with Israel's intransigence which is backed by the United States. This could undermine all international efforts for the achievement of peace. Mr. De Cuellar and the international community realise that this year offers a good chance for a settlement, and that the longer it takes to achieve that goal the more the chances will be for an escalation of tension and the stepped up violence in the Middle East.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: What is Carter after?

JIMMY Carter, the architect of the Camp David accords between Israel and Egypt is on a tour of the Middle East region, and the Arabs are advised to look on his tour with a great measure of suspicion. Mr. Carter was behind the Egyptian-Israeli deal which has caused a deep split within the Arab World, and he is known to be opposing the idea of an international conference for resolving the Middle East question. Recently Carter expressed doubts about the possibility of holding this conference during 1987 and supported Israel's foreign minister's ideas about direct negotiations between the Arabs and Israel. We do not yet know what Carter intends to do during his tour nor the actual purpose of his talks in the countries of the region. But some indications point to the possibility that he will discuss the fate of the foreign hostages held in Beirut. It is rather difficult for such a man who has a zero credibility in this region to achieve anything in this matter, a man who had earlier failed to secure the release of the American hostages at the U.S. embassy in Tehran. Mr. Carter should know that U.S. failure in achieving anything at all in our region is due to Washington's policies, and the escalation of violence and the kidnapping of American and other hostages is a natural reaction by extremist groups to America's continued support for the aggressors and the enemies of justice. America's credibility can return only when Washington opts for a sound course of action that leads to a lasting peace.

Al Dustour: Deceiving decision

ISRAEL's relations with South Africa are so close and strong that it is impossible for the Jewish state to implement its decision of ceasing deals with the Pretoria regime. Israel has taken this decision with the clear purpose of improving its own image before the U.S. public opinion, and the U.S. Congress which has started to adopt a hostile attitude towards South Africa. Israel's decision can only mean another play and another link in the long series of Zionist attempts to maintain strong U.S.-Israeli relations and secret ties with the white regime in Pretoria. It is only a deceit of the American public opinion and serves as a measure to escape of punishment by U.S. Congress which has the power of offering or denying Tel Aviv more aid. The Israeli decision is no more than a kind of appeasement for Washington and could never be implemented since both Israel and South Africa follow similar policies and carry out similar atrocities and racial discriminations strategies against the Arab and African people. We sincerely hope that the Arab countries will benefit from such a situation and try to make the U.S. understand the real nature of Israel and Zionism and win over Washington's approval for a just settlement of the Middle East problem.

VIEW FROM AMMAN

Issues of development: Education and the rote system

By Dr. Kamel Abu Jaber

QUANTITATIVELY, Jordan's achievements in the field of education are impressive. Qualitatively too, Jordan's educational system has been successful though there remains room for improvement. It is a system that is good for the excellent student whose mind is so versatile and imagination so active that it breaks the barriers erected by the rote system. But then such a mind is creative under any system. It is also a rarity that will break loose however immense may be the handicaps placed before it. For the average student, it teaches conservatism, how to get by, how not to be noticed, not to create. For the poor student, the system is discouraging since it provides for no coordination between mind and body and since its focus is strictly on the capacity of the mind to memorise. Not every mind is adept at this; not every mind can be pressed into such a pattern. For those students who cannot, frustration and rebelliousness replace the desire to learn. School hours become a dread and the teacher becomes the focus of negative authority — an authority to be feared and mistrusted. By definition the rote system teaches in the abstract. Because of the lack of experimentation, the necessary tools, facilities and laboratories in most of our schools, a situation imposed by the twin constraints of the need for expansion, quantitatively, and the paucity of material resources and trained teachers, the knowledge imparted, even in the sciences, is also abstract. What we need is an expansion of our facilities so we can teach our children in such a way that they will remember what they learned and how they learned it. As of now, the vast majority of our students are not

involved in the process of education and therefore most cannot relate to it. They, or their majority, are simply receptacles for whom the process of education is another unpleasant experience to be endured.

Knowledge, thus "poured down the throat", often forcibly, teaches the fear of knowledge itself. Even for the good student, it is often, no more than a coat of paint on the outside, rarely interacting with the self and rarely leading to creativity. When such an approach is coupled with our emphasis on competition, grades, and our terrible exam system, the whole experience verges on a nightmare not only for the pupil alone, but for his entire family as well. The exam becomes truly a test of life not simply a measure of achievement, of appreciation of how much was learned or where rectification is needed. Is it right or is it just that at present a child's entire life depends on the outcome of one exam, a grade? The judgment is often so final and its consequences so terrible that it creates not only personal agony and frustration for the child but peer pressure, and social and familial dismay and often even ostracism.

This critique emanates from love not the desire to simply criticise for our system does produce though not to such an extent as it should. In looking over my own life, my own experience in school, I still do not know how I endured it. The human relationships with fellow students and with teachers were, for the most part, pleasant and good as I am sure they still are throughout all our educational institutions. The problem stems from the method, the abstract

nature of the way knowledge is imparted, the exam system, the terrible competitiveness and the resultant tensions and consequences, that it produces.

On the individual level these consequences are often tragic: An early drop-out, a confused and often frustrated self that has little confidence and that remains in a state of quasi-dependency on others, family or friends. The rote system discourages experimentation needed so that the individual can explore new vistas. Trial and error is also needed to build "self," rather than "other," discipline and to build in the mind a certain measure of confidence and maturity.

On the national level it teaches assurance, that one need not cut corners, need not cheat, that the teacher is not "out to get you" in an exam. How can one truly and honestly demand an honour system when the child knows that his whole life, in its entirety, depends on an exam, a grade? It is unfair, for we are not addressing geniuses alone but the average and those below as well. The adult often forgets, or likes to forget that youth has a mind and can think; that this mind, though sometimes incapable of absorbing all that we want it to absorb, can still think on other levels; and that it will tend to find a way to cope, to manipulate, and in desperate situations even to cheat. That is not what we want or need. Our method should be changed so it can instill confidence in analysis and analogy as methods of problem solving. Though this may take time, the effort is worthwhile for eventually knowledge will become a challenge to be anticipated not a fear to be dreaded.

Time for UNRWA to move

By Godfrey Jansen

modation available. No other Arab capital was seriously considered — and with good reason.

There was, however, one country in the region which UNRWA simply refused to consider as a possible site for its quarters — Cyprus. Its advantages were, and are, obvious. It is the closest possible country to the Levant, 30 minutes by plane and six hours by boat to Beirut; it has equally good relations with all the feuding Arab countries; communications are excellent; and in 1970 it was cheap. Acting quickly Cyprus put itself forward to UNRWA as, possibly, its new home, and even offered to provide free office space, and find suitable accommodation for UNRWA staff.

This generous offer got nowhere because the staff members, both international and Arab, had by then been thoroughly seduced by the undoubted charms of life in Vienna. This meshed in with Waldheim's determination to get another organisation into the

U.N. building. So the Cyprus option was turned aside. The only "real" reason given was that Cyprus was a divided country and that "anything might happen", which it has not. At present four U.N. organisations have offices in Nicosia.

UNRWA is a special and autonomous organisation, responsible only to the general assembly. It has a clear, sharply defined mandate — to look after just one group of people, the Palestinian refugees. The absurdity of its headquarters being located 2,000 miles away from its base of operations, and being lost on the general assembly, from 1978 onwards, year after year, the U.N. requested UNRWA to return as soon as practicable, at first, to its "area of operations" and then later, at the request of the Lebanese government, specifically, "to Beirut". This is a totally unrealistic request and even the Lebanese authorities do not any longer want to be responsible for fore-

igners. UNRWA obviously never took this assembly recommendation seriously.

But it has been forced to take seriously the need to have a rear base office near to, but not in, Lebanon. Hence, since August 1985 UNRWA has had an office in Cyprus at Larnaca, presently staffed by two international and ten local employees dealing with administration, personnel and finance. Even if the majority of the headquarters staff in Vienna is too deeply entrenched there to be moved eastwards, should not a substantial forward headquarters, including the commissioner-general himself, be built around the nucleus of the Larnaca office?

The harmful effect of UNRWA being far from its operations has been very evident during the continuing crisis of the last few months. There are still ten international officials serving in Beirut, a brave endeavour, but during a real crisis decisions have

Superpower arms pact, summit likely, U.S. analysts say

By Carol Giacomo
Reuters

WASHINGTON — Impelled partly by domestic politics, President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev are moving toward their first arms control agreement and perhaps a third summit, U.S. officials and analysts say.

A broad spectrum of government and private experts believe a treaty eliminating medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe is now a possibility.

But difficult hurdles remain, namely how to prevent cheating and how to handle short-range nuclear weapons.

"If people want to derail this, it's still derailable," according to Joseph Nye, a former U.S. official who heads Harvard University's Centre for Science and International Affairs.

U.S. negotiator Max Kampelman told reporters, "We have a good shot at an agreement." But he added, "I am concerned there is too much euphoria."

Despite potential problems, strong forces are pushing both leaders towards an agreement. Raymond Garthoff, a Soviet expert at the private Brookings Institute, a research group, said Gorbachev apparently had concluded that Reagan, with only two years left in office, was moving away from a compromise on strategic and space weapons.

"That left INF (intermediate nuclear forces) as the only agreement that could be reached be-

cause the Soviets already made major concessions on that issue," he told Reuters.

He also speculated that Gorbachev wants to reaffirm the arms control process, badly damaged by U.S. abandonment last year of the 1979 SALT-2 treaty.

John Steinbrunner, another Brookings Soviet expert, said Gorbachev has been under heavy pressure from the Soviet military to reach agreement to remove the fast, accurate U.S. Pershing-2 missiles from West Germany where they threaten Moscow's battle command and control system.

Other U.S. experts say they believe Gorbachev, trying to revive his country's economy, is eager to halt an arms race that drains his treasury and spurs a technology contest with the United States he would prefer to avoid.

Domestic pressures are paramount for Reagan, analysts say.

An INF agreement could help repair the damage to his presidency inflicted by disclosure of secret arms sales to Iran and diversion of profits to U.S.-backed contra rebels in Nicaragua.

Reagan is also believed to deeply desire a place in history as the president who reversed the arms race — a dream widely reported to be shared by his wife Nancy.

Only one day after admitting his Iran policy had become an arms-for-hostages deal and was wrong, Reagan was hailing the movement on INF as a historic



opportunity for peace.

However, it remained to be seen whether an INF agreement would lead to an accord on the long-range strategic missiles that make up the bulk of the superpowers' nuclear arsenals.

Secretary of State George Shultz has said movement on INF raises hopes for progress on strategic weapons.

An agreement on INF verification against cheating could carry over to an accord on strategic

weapons.

But independent analysts said the focus has moved away from a comprehensive strategic accord and the best the superpowers could achieve in this area before Reagan retires in 1989 is a general communique rather than a signed treaty.

Reagan's "Star Wars" missile defence research plan remains the principal obstacle to a strategic missile accord.

The administration is considering how to proceed with future research and taking a new look at the 1972 anti-ballistic missile treaty.

Its "broad" reading of the treaty, which if implemented would allow considerable testing, is under strong challenge by arms control advocates and by influential members of Congress.

Reagan seemed to indicate at a news conference Thursday night, however, that he was not pre-

pared to implement the broad reading quite as quickly as some other U.S. officials want.

"We're still operating within the narrow limits and we have no reason to go outside them as yet and it will be some time before we do," he said.

The arms control impasse was broken on February 28 when Gorbachev announced his willingness to sign an INF pact separate from strategic and space defenses.

Gorbachev had demanded an all-or-nothing package following last October's Iceland summit that collapsed in disagreement over the partially space-based Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) after agreements in principle on sweeping arms cuts.

Under the plan, both sides' medium-range missiles in Europe would be dismantled. The Soviet Union would retain 100 warheads in the Asian part of its territory and the United States could have 100 warheads on its soil.

Reagan responded swiftly to Gorbachev's initiative by proposing a draft treaty at the Geneva arms talks and announcing that Shultz would visit Moscow in April for talks aimed at keeping the momentum going.

Since then, U.S. officials have talked openly of renewed chances for scheduling a summit this year which some analysts said could be used to sign an INF treaty.

But negotiator Kampelman has noted that much has yet to be negotiated and "the devil is in the details."

Afrikaans university provides unlikely setting for rebellion

By Ruth Pitchford

Reuters

STELLENBOSCH, South Africa — An academic rebellion is simmering in the intellectual home of apartheid.

It was amid the gracious buildings and oak-lined avenues of Stellenbosch University that a sociology professor named Hendrik Verwoerd began to devise a formal ideology of racial separation.

As prime minister in the late 1950s and 1960s, he was to implement his ideas in the system of South African laws known as apartheid.

Earlier in his history, Stellenbosch fought British colonial influence for the right to teach in Afrikaans, the Dutch-based language of most South African whites.

Stellenbosch has also produced most of the leaders of South Africa's National Party (NP),

which won power in 1948 aiming to defend Afrikaans culture through racial separation. The university's chancellor is South African President P.W. Botha.

But the university has now produced a group of rebel academics who want Verwoerd's successors to allow free association and give the black majority real political power.

They say that the party's current leadership may have eased apartheid, but that it has now stopped thinking.

It is a message which many of their 14,000 students — all but 400 of them white — may find hard to accept.

They include the children of cabinet ministers. They come to Stellenbosch because it is prestigious to be a *matie* — a nickname its students may have acquired from the Afrikaans *maat* (friend or pal) or, less favourably, from *tamtie* (tomato) after their vivid maroon blazers.

Founded in 1881, Stellenbosch

is the oldest of five Afrikaans-language campuses, famous for rugby — the university rugby club has 1,400 members — and idyllically situated.

It lies in a broad valley where white settlers arrived 300 years ago to find an oasis, only 30 miles beyond their base in Cape Town, protected by spectacular mountain ranges.

The town that grew up there as a settler outpost is now a relaxed and prosperous centre for the Cape wine industry.

Carefully preserved original buildings house clothing and craft shops, cafes and restaurants, many catering largely for the students who make up a quarter of its population.

Student dress is relaxed but there is little of the exotic or Bohemian. Many of the male students stroll around in shorts while the women cultivate a style dubbed "smart casual" that will serve them equally well in their working lives.

A recent opinion poll suggests that the students rebel even less in their politics than in their fashions. Some 70 per cent back the NP, and 18 per cent think it too liberal.

Left-wingers among the remaining 11 per cent say it is hard to buck the trend. Most come from Nationalist families and many belong to the Afrikaans Dutch Reformed Church.

Under apartheid, they have been guaranteed places at whites-only school which stress discipline and loyalty to the values of their 2.6 million strong Afrikaaner community.

One dissident told Reuters: "For so long, it has been that the Afrikaaner is the church, is the National Party, is the government. It's like dissenting from your whole world."

Stellenbosch is the most liberal of the Afrikaans campuses. It is proud of its community work scheme, under which students offer medical care, sports tuition

and legal advice to black and coloured (mixed-race) township residents and farm workers.

Books banned from South African shops are available at the university's post-graduate institute for the study of Marxism.

Two years ago 300 Stellenbosch students made Afrikaans University history by going on a political protest march.

The marchers, demanding that the university admit more coloured (people of mixed race) and blacks and that the state free black political prisoners, were turned back by police as they tried to enter the streets of Stellenbosch town.

University authorities made plain their disapproval. The authorities have since barred some 150 end conscription campaign supporters from lobbying on campus for an end to compulsory military service, which applies only to white men.

When a group of Stellenbosch students sought to meet the ban-

ned black nationalist African National Congress in Lusaka in 1985, their passports were confiscated.

Left-wingers on the campus admit they remain a minority.

Terreblanche says that for years he organised think-tank sessions for Nationalist leaders at Stellenbosch, in hopes of radical NP reform. Now he is backing independent candidates in a whites-only election set for May 6.

Thirty years ago a group of Stellenbosch academics made a more modest protest against NP policy and won little more than social ostracism. Terreblanche told Reuters: "For the first time the NP is on the run."

He may have trouble convincing his students. The most popular newspaper on campus is *Die Burger*, strictly loyal to the NP. Last week it branded him and his colleagues as irresponsible and disloyal.

High school English curriculum: The need for revision

By Dr. Ahmad Majdoubeh

OUR high school students' performance in English has worsened noticeably over the past decade. This is indeed, somewhat surprising, since the years in question covered with the introduction and implementation of our 3 national development plans. One would have expected the efforts the government exerted in the realm of English teaching — which met with remarkable success in other parallel spheres — to have yielded better results. Unfortunately, however, they have not.

There has undeniably been successes in some respects. The student's pronunciation, for instance, has generally become more realistic, his reading capability more satisfactory, and his comprehension more acceptable. Furthermore, his command of vocabulary is quite good and sometimes even impressive.

Such improvement, however, is only partial, and the overall picture continues to look grim. There are at our universities English majors, in their sophomore and junior years, who (and I am not exaggerating) cannot produce a single sharp sentence. Most may be able to express themselves in simple sentences, but few are able to come up with "complex" or "compound" ones. We can all live with certain predictable errors, of course, and we indeed expect learners of a foreign language to make mistakes. But our students' errors are inexcusable. Most are errors in the "basics," which should have been overcome in preparatory school.

Our incoming English majors, the vast majority of whom gets an average of B+ in the *twelfth*, know very little English. We are often forced to change our advanced writing courses to fundamental grammar lessons. One really wonders what our students do in the seven years preceding their university schooling.

The causes of the problem, though admittedly varied and interconnected, are not difficult to pinpoint. One might expect them to extend to the heart of the teaching philosophy, but in fact they do not. Jordan's philosophy of education is not only one of the most progressive in the Arab World, but also one of the most dynamic. The strategies are constantly evaluated, updated, and revised. This is indeed a healthy approach and a source of pride for us all.

The failure is not in the theory, then, but in the application. There are in my opinion two main causes, one related to the curriculum itself and the other (which I shall address next week) to the instructor.

The high school English curriculum, though in many ways positive and even effective, has nonetheless one crippling flaw which affects the student's overall performance quite drastically. The syllabus is composed of a "course" book — containing reading passages followed by a list of the difficult words and their meaning, comprehension exercises, and "structure" exercises and drills — and an "anthology," comprising a variety of literary passages selected from several genres (poems, short stories, novels, etc.) followed by comprehension and analysis questions.

Even a hasty glance at the syllabus will reveal its clear bias — and drawback. All components are geared toward developing the student's comprehension. Whether this is deliberate or simply inadvertent one cannot tell. The vocabulary section, the exercises, and the general questions aim to check the student's grasp of facts and familiarity with the idioms. This explains the improvement

spoken of earlier. Indeed, there is nothing wrong with such a bias or emphasis (and it is at some level positive) except that it detracts from other crucial aspects of the student's performance, mainly his expression.

Grammar is obviously neglected. The "structure" exercises are simply no good. True, they do contain some grammar, but what they contain is either too little, too idiosyncratic (i.e. irrelevant and difficult even for a native speaker), too eclectic, or extremely lacking in continuity and logic. Expression is the major problem. For our students to overcome it, they need a thorough acquaintance with the fundamentals of language structure. To produce sharp, solid sentences, they have to master the basic grammatical patterns. I do not really know why the curriculum was designed in such a manner. It may be that those who planned it have too much faith in the elementary and preparatory school syllabus. They may be ultra modernist, who find traditional grammar distasteful.

Whatever the rationale, it is clear that the curriculum needs some revision. What I propose is a minor change. I suggest that the "structure" section be deleted and replaced with a booklet which contains lessons in pure, traditional grammar: sections on the tenses, conditionals, question types, the passive and the active voice, etc. The booklet should perhaps be divided into three volumes, to correspond with the three secondary years, and the material should be selected and arranged in accordance with the concepts of comprehensiveness, graduation and continuity.

The remedy is simple, the revision is partial, but the result will, I am sure, be quite dramatic.



Paul Daniels host Debbie McGee on his Thursday show at 8:30

JTV Channel 2 Preview

Sat. — March 21, 1987

8:30 Music Box

9:30 Dad's Army

10:20 Feature Film
Apocalypse Now

A Vietnam captain is instructed to eliminate a colonel who has retired to the hills and is fighting his own war. Pretentious war movie, made even more hollow-sounding by the incomprehensible performance of Brando as the mad marine. Some vivid scenes along the way, and some interesting parallels with Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*, but these hardly atone for the director's delusion that prodigious expenditure of time and money will result in great art.

Sun. — March 22, 1987

8:30 Who's the Boss

9:10 Doc. — The Day the Universe Changed
Worlds Without End

This programme reviews the entire series, recalling for the viewer the many systems of belief which have been discarded as the discovery of new knowledge rendered them apparently invalid. The structure of knowledge at any stage of history defines "truth" and provides a framework to ask questions about our universe. The series closes by posing a philosophical question: If each truth is solid in its time, then is knowledge itself only what we make it? Is all discovery merely invention?

10:20 Spearfield's Daughter
Mon. — March 23, 1987

8:30 You Again

9:10 William the Conqueror

10:20 Simon and Simon

Tue. — March 24, 1987

8:30 No Place Like Home

9:00 Varieties

10:20 The Fourth Arm

An exciting climax of a top-secret mission to destroy a military complex in northern France used by the Germans.

Wed. — March 25, 1987

8:30 Three's A Crowd

Starring:
John Ritter
Mary Cadorette

Three's A Crowd is the follow-up to the popular American comedy series Three's Company, and is loosely based on the long-running British success. Robin's Nest. John Ritter plays restaurant owner Jack who lives with his girlfriend Vicky, an air hostess. The couple's busy work schedules don't leave them much time to get together, and when they do matters are invariably complicated by Vicky's father, Bradford — who also happens to be Jack's landlord. Bradford doesn't approve of his daughter living with a man, even though he's separated himself, and quite a one for the ladies. He'd like to see Jack and Vicky split up and he does his best to cause trouble between them. Meanwhile, Jack has another problem. He would be only too happy to marry Vicky, but there's just one snag. Vicky has been put off marriage by her parents' example and she simply doesn't want to know.

9:10 Doc. — A Gentle Way With Cancer.

This programme follows Roger Haddock and his girlfriend Millie over the next five months as they seek help for Roger's condition from outside conventional medicine. Their journey takes them to towns in Britain and on the Continent. But the financial strain and a nomadic life take their toll. Roger's health deteriorates, but he never loses hope, and finally there is some encouragement for all their sacrifices. Though he is not cured, Roger's bone marrow is found clear of cancer.

10:20 Best Seller
Captain and The Kings

Thur. — March 26, 1987

8:30 Paul Daniels Show

9:10 Remington Steele
Steele Blushing

10:20 Feature Film
Torn Between Two Lovers

Starring:
Lee Remick
Joe Bologna
George Peppard

A married woman meets a divorced engineer during a journey. They fall in love with each other and the engineer asks her to get away from her husband and so that they can get married later.

Fri. — March 27, 1987

8:30 Throb

9:10 Falcon Crest

10:20 Unnatural Causes
Partners

NASA powers up fastest computer to design superplanes

By Dean Lokken

MOUNTAIN VIEW, California — A major revolution in aviation history has just occurred in what looks like a fishbowl filled with bubbles and tangled wires, and just four feet square.

America's dreams of airplanes that orbit the earth and 21st-century spaceships depend on what U.S. scientists say is the world's most powerful computer, recently dedicated by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

Scientists said development of the new computer system, known as the numerical aerodynamic simulation (NAS), or Cray-2, ranked with the Wright Brothers' first flight.

The supercomputer looks like a giant fishbowl, and is filled with bubbling clear liquid, thousands of computer chips and a tangle of red, white and blue wires.

The system, housed at NASA's Ames Research Centre, operates in a glass shell filled with a cooling liquid.

NASA officials said while Orville and Wilbur Wright's flight in 1903 at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, was the first revolution, and the widespread introduction in the 1930s of wind tunnels to test aircraft was the second, the Cray-2 is the third revolution of flight.

The \$100-million supercomputer went into full operation this month, and scientists around the country are already working at video terminals connected to it.

The computer is so speedy that it can make 250 million computations a second and so powerful that it is equivalent to running 50,000 personal computers simultaneously.

By mid-1988 the computer will be upgraded to one billion computations per second, James

Fletcher, head of NASA, said at the dedication ceremonies.

By the late 1990s, scientists hope to boost the computer system's capability to 10 billion computations per second.

"It will be devoted to pioneering research in aeronautical physics and will help us to solve problems more rapidly, more efficiently and more effectively than we ever could with wind tunnels alone," Fletcher said.

The computer centre, located in the Silicon Valley a few hundred yards from the world's largest wind tunnel, will complement, not eliminate, wind tunnels, say scientists.

Because the supercomputer and its peripheral devices generate so much heat, NASA built a special computer building with a cooling capacity of 2,800 tonnes of ice a day. The liquid that keeps the Cray-2 cool is a non-conductive mixture of chemicals also

used as artificial plasma in humans.

To move the voluminous data between the supercomputer and its storage devices and graphics terminals, the scientists developed a system to transfer the equivalent of a 250-page book in less than one hundredth of a second.

It would take more than an hour to do the same thing on a standard home or office computer.

Airplane and spacecraft designers are already using the computer to find the best configuration for what President Reagan called "the orient express," a hypersonic plane that could fly from the United States to Japan in two hours.

A flying model of the plane is to be ready in 10 years or less.

Scientists also plan to design the next space shuttles using the Cray-2. When the present shuttles were built, engineers spent

more than 50,000 hours testing designs in wind tunnels, an expensive method they called "cut and try."

Now they can design craft on computer screens and test performance before building a model. The computer will check air flow, turbulence and engine performance.

Many of the problems of designing aircraft for the 21st-century are so complex that only supercomputers can solve them, NASA scientists said.

The system set up so that scientists at all major aerospace companies, universities and other research centres can use it via telecommunications hookups. Ninety per cent of its time is earmarked for aeronautics the rest will be used for other disciplines, such as meteorology and astronomy.

The Department of Defence has been allocated about 15 per cent of the computer time.

The computer system's inauguration won unbridled praise from Dean Thornton, president of Boeing Commercial Airplane Co., world's largest manufacturer of airplanes.

Thornton said his company already has put the system to work on the Boeing 777, a 150-passenger jetliner it plans to introduce in 1992 as successor to the 757. One task is finding ways to cut fuel usage.

"We think we can achieve 40 per cent less fuel use per seat than previous aircraft," Thornton said.

Boeing also is working on the "orient express" plane, which scientists think will be able to take off on a runway like a conventional plane, zoom to 25 times the speed of sound and orbit the earth.

That is about three times faster than wind tunnels are able to test aircraft models.

'Children, the Butterflies of Paradise'

By Paul Eyan Ress

CAIRO — In a pioneering study of references to children and mothers in the Holy Koran, the most prestigious spiritual and intellectual institution in Islam, Al Azhar, says that child and maternal welfare has been a fundamental Muslim concern for 1,400 years.

This emerges clearly from a book, "Child Care in Islam," which five leading Islamic scholars of Al Azhar recently published here. They base their findings on the first study ever made of references to children in the Koran and the Sunna, that is, the sayings and deeds of the Prophet Mohammad.

Hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions, of children die of diarrhoea and vaccine-preventable diseases every year in the developing countries of the Muslim world. So, the widespread dissemination of Al Azhar's "Child Care in Islam" — through discussion of it at the Fourth World Islamic Conference on Sira (life) and Sunna some months ago in Cairo, for example, and its subsequent distribution to thousands of mosques throughout Egypt — is expected to increase the attention given to child and maternal care by individuals, families and communities.

Explaining their conclusions, the Al Azhar scholars declare that "Islam, whose interest in children dates back 14 centuries, dictates to believers to seek the necessary preventive health measures for their children. God made parents responsible for the protection of their children from diseases and from the dangers that threaten their survival and development.

"If medicine in our day has come to stress the necessity and the significance of breast-feeding, it is worth mentioning that Islam has emphasised this point for 1,400 years. The mother who refuses to breastfeed her child without a good reason is denying herself as well as her child a very important benefit. Breast-feeding creates in the mother an emotional upsurge and intensifies in her the feelings of motherly affection."

Sheikh Mahdi Abdul Hamid, director of information at Al Azhar, points out that "Al Azhar is both a mosque and university that was founded here more than 1,000 years ago. It occupies a unique position in the Muslim world. Some 5,000 of its students come every year from about 60 countries, while Al Azhar sends a similar number to preach and teach abroad. Anywhere you go from Morocco in the west to Indonesia in the east you are bound to encounter former students of Al Azhar. In Egyptian

history Al Azhar has played an illustrious role. It was the centre of resistance first to Napoleon and then to the British. Nasser went there in 1956 to issue his appeal to resist Britain, France and Israel."

Sheikh Mahdi added that "the importance of 'Child Care in Islam' is that it was prepared and approved by the most respected Islamic authorities in the world, and this gives it credibility among Muslims everywhere. It incites believers to obedience. It should be of great interest and assistance to religious and government authorities, doctors, nurses, traditional birth attendants, teachers, health ministry officials as well as to the general public."

"Child Care in Islam" has meaning not only for the entire Arab World but for hundreds of millions of people in Indonesia, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Iran, Turkey, and much of Africa.

One of the tasks the Al Azhar scholars assigned themselves was to clarify the Islamic view concerning the family's responsibility for the health care and education of girls and women.

In this connection they quote Prophet Mohammad as declaring "the best of your children are the girls" and "whoever catered for a girl shall go to Paradise." The Prophet went even further, say the Al Azhar scholars, and favoured the girl over the boy. "If somebody goes to the market," said the Prophet, "and buys a toy and (gives) it to his children, it is as if he had brought alms to a group of deprived and needy people, and he should start with the girls first."

Prophet Mohammad is also quoted as justifying pregnant and breast-feeding mothers for breaking their fast during Ramadan, an indication of his recognition of the special needs of mother and child during this period, and the importance he attached to their well-being.

Sheikh Mahdi emphasised that "our purpose in publishing the book was not to try to persuade non-Muslims to become Muslims, for we believe that Islam, Christianity and Judaism are all known to be religions inspired by God. I hope and I believe that the Muslim world will benefit from the study of 'Child Care in Islam,' and that non-Islamic countries will, too."

The practical follow-up to publication was not long in coming. The Fourth World Islamic Conference on Sira and Sunna, held here recently, took up "Child Care in Islam" at a special session. Qatar, Jordan and Egypt presented papers on the subject which were discussed by delegates from 45 Islamic countries. — UNICEF feature.

Pakistan's 'white gold' is key exchange earner

By Oliver Wates

KARACHI — When Alexander the Great marched into the Indus Valley in 326 B.C., one of his generals noted that the local people spun fine clothing from a "vegetable wool" taken from a plant.

The properties of the plant had been known long before the Greek invaders arrived, according to archaeologists.

Excavations of Mohenjo-daro, a vast ruined city by Indus River, show traces of fabric made from the same material dating back to 3,000 B.C. — cotton.

The Indus Valley regained something of its former glory as a cotton centre last year when Pakistan became the world's biggest exporter of the ever-popular fibre.

With the United States temporarily withdrawn from the market because of low prices, Pakistan sold some 660,000 tonnes of raw cotton in 1985/86, more than twice its previous record.

It accounted for more than one-sixth of Pakistan's export earnings, a vital contribution for a country whose imports are worth more than twice as much as exports. If cotton-based textiles are included, cotton's share of exports rises to half.

But with world supplies vastly exceeding demand, the Pakistani cotton industry is going to have to work hard to repeat its success and retain its share of the market.

The message was spelled out at a recent seminar in Karachi, devoted to what officials like to call Pakistan's "white gold."

The problem is that until recently Pakistan had no system for classifying and grading its cotton. This meant that any bale could contain a variety of types and qualities of cotton, causing difficulty and expense for a textile manufacturer.

"In the past, export buyers in particular have not had a great deal of confidence in the types and qualities of cotton lint offered and delivered to them," Rafique Akhund, head of the state Cotton Export Corporation (CEC) told the seminar.

This meant that Pakistani cotton could only command a price as much as a fifth below its true value, a loss to the country of some \$75 million a year on current turnover, he said.

To tackle the problem, the United Nations set up a programme in 1984 to introduce a system of cotton standards and grading, and train local experts to do the classifying.

A system of six grades, designed for local conditions, was

established and introduced in almost 100 of the country's 600-odd ginning factories. This graded cotton has already begun to fetch prices up to 15 per cent higher.

But officials acknowledge that there is a long way to go and a cotton standards institute is being set up to police and control a permanent grading system.

Pakistan is fortunate in the type of cotton which grows here, according to Raymond E. Fort, director of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) project.

It is strong and well-suited for blending with synthetic fibres using the new technologies with which such dynamic economies as Taiwan, Hong Kong, Japan and Singapore have conquered the textile markets, he said.

"Pakistan cotton would continue to sell without the institute because it's good," he told Reuters. "But the price will be low."

The Far East has succeeded by quality — Pakistan needs to be poised for the new markets in the explosive economic growth of the Far East," he said.

The move to improve quality was spurred partly by the disappearance of Pakistan's main market China, which emerged itself as a major exporter and

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Lloyd crushes Bassett in Dallas tournament

DALLAS (R) — Top-seeded Chris Evert Lloyd lost only one game as she crushed Canadian Carling Bassett at the \$250,000 Dallas Women's Tennis Tournament to move a step closer to her first title in nine months.

Lloyd scored a 6-0, 6-1 victory Thursday to advance to the third round.

In other second-round matches, fourth seed Manuela Maleeva of Bulgaria beat Australian Diane Balesat 6-2, 6-4; fifth seed Bettina Bunge of West Germany had to save three match points to defeat American Kate Gompert 6-1, 4-6, 7-6; and seventh seed Wendy Turnbull of Australia dropped a set to qualifier Barbara Gerken of the U.S. before winning 3-6, 6-2, 6-4.

Lloyd showed the flawless baseline game that has brought her 18 Grand Slam titles as she took the first nine games from the 32nd-ranked Bassett.

The 32-year-old Lloyd, whose ranking dropped to number three during five months off due to injury, said she feels she has regained her concentration.

"My concentration has been the best in the game but when I returned from my injury, I struggled with it. I felt like it was there tonight," she said.

Bunge cruised through her first set, losing only one game, but Gompert, who defeated Lloyd last month, fought back determinedly with error-free baseline tennis to even it up at one set apiece.

After serving for the match at 6-5 in the third set and failing and then falling behind 3-6 in the tiebreaker, Bunge was so fatigued that she almost conceded the match.

"I didn't think I was going to win. After losing my serve at 6-5, I was discouraged at the beginning of the tiebreaker. I was thinking that she is playing so well maybe she deserves to win," said Bunge.

But the German did not give up, fighting her way back to take a 7-6 lead on three Gompert forehand errors and an overhead winner and ultimately winning the tiebreaker 9-7 and the match.

FIFA weighs sanctioning N. Korea for absence

ZURICH, Switzerland (AP) — The International Federation of Football Associations (FIFA) said Thursday it will consider punishing North Korea for refusing to play a qualifying round for the soccer tournament at the 1988 Summer Olympics.

South Korea has been awarded the right to host the Games. But rival North Korea claimed it should automatically enter the finals as co-host of the Games.

A FIFA emergency panel is to meet on the North Korean claim next Friday. It could decree a formal ban of North Korea from the tournament and financial sanctions, a FIFA source said.

The committee is headed by Vyacheslav Kolosov of the Soviet Union.

Under FIFA rules, North Korea is eliminated anyway after refusing to play the first-round qualifiers against Thailand and Malaysia on March 16 and 18.

Both games were scored a 2-0 forfeit loss for North Korea, and Thailand ousted Malaysia to advance to the second round.

North Korea has demanded to co-host the Seoul Games, prompting a reconciliation effort by Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee.

Historic tie in India-Pakistan cricket

HYDERABAD, India (AP) — The third one-day international between India and Pakistan ended in a historic, nail-biting tie Friday, and India was declared winner for losing fewer wickets.

India, after being humiliated by Pakistan in the first two one-day confrontations, came back and still has a chance to win the six-match series. Pakistan has defeated India on the last five occasions when the two old rivals have met.

The Friday contest was suspense-filled even beyond the last ball, when young Maninder Singh gave a lightning return to have Abdul Qadir run out with the

Pakistan score at 212 — equal to India's total.

Umpires took several minutes to declare India the winner because it made 212 runs with the loss of only six wickets while Pakistan lost seven in 44 overs.

It was only the second time a one-day international was tied. The first was the 1984 tie between West Indies and Australia.

As the end drew near, the thrill mounted with Pakistan's Manzoor Elahi and Abdul Qadir hitting out at every delivery.

But it was a fantastic finish to a fantastic match with Qadir being run out on the last ball by Kapil Dev.

Favoured teams avoid tie in Champions' Cup draw

GENEVA (R) — Real Madrid and Dynamo Kiev — the past and present masters of European soccer — managed to avoid one another when the draw for the semifinals of the Champions' Cup was made here Friday.

The Spaniards, who ruled Europe from 1956-60 and again in 1966, were paired with three-times winner Bayern Munich while the Ukrainians were drawn against Portuguese champion Porto.

Although there is a growing feeling in West Germany that Bayern has the potential to add to its three successive European Cup triumphs of 1974-76, a Real-Dynamo final in Vienna on May 27 appears the likeliest outcome.

Bayern will have to make the most of home advantage in the first leg on April 8. Anything less than a two-goal advantage is unlikely to be enough when the return is held in the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium two weeks later.

Bayern would dearly love a repeat of the 5-0 home win which set up its quarter-final victory over Belgian champion Anderlecht.

While possessing players such as Hugo Sanchez, Emilio Butragueno and Rafael Gordillo, Real continues suffer in comparison with its great sides of the past but Dynamo is generally recognized as the most exciting team of the moment.

The club provided the bulk of the talented Soviet team which won unanimous praise in the Mexico World Cup, and European Footballer of the Year Igor Belanov. Alexander Zavarov, Vasily Rats and Vladimir Bessonov are true greats of the modern game.

Porto will, as always, be anything but accommodating and its

vast experience of European football makes it a daunting proposition. But it is difficult to imagine the Portuguese being able to cope with the swashbuckling attacking play which saw Dynamo swamp Besiktas Istanbul 7-0 in the quarter-finals.

The Cup Winners' Cup, won in such thrilling style by Dynamo Kiev last season, could also provide an intriguing climax if Bordeaux of France and Ajax Amsterdam advance to the final in Athens on May 13.

Both, however, face difficult tasks in the semifinals. Ajax has to tackle Real Zaragoza of Spain while Bordeaux must play the equally stuffy Lokomotiv Leipzig.

Dundee United's famous UEFA Cup triumph in Barcelona last Wednesday earned the Scots a semifinal date with the ever-dangerous Borussia Moenchengladbach of West Germany.

If United continues its winning ways, its opponent in the two-leg final, which will be played on May 6 and 20, is likely to be 1982 winner Gothenburg, who was drawn against Austria's Swarovski Tirol.

Results of European cup matches

Spain experienced both ecstasy and agony as Real Madrid, lifted by an early goal from striker Emilio Butragueno, forced its way into the semifinals of the European Cup while Barcelona was unexpectedly knocked out of the UEFA Cup.

Madrid, the Spanish champion and winner of UEFA Cup for the last two seasons, successfully overcame a 4-2 deficit from the first leg in Yugoslavia to beat Red Star Belgrade 2-0 and squeeze into the last four on the away

goals rule.

Barcelona, however, crashed out of the UEFA Cup when it was beaten 2-1 at home by Scotland's Dundee United. John Clark and Iain Ferguson scoring in the last five minutes to seal a 3-1 aggregate triumph after Ramon Caldera had given the Catalans a 40th minute lead.

Urged on by a 100,000-capacity crowd at the towering Santiago Bernabeu Stadium, Madrid, seeking its seventh win in the premier tournament European club soccer, triumphed with goals from Spanish international Butragueno and defender Manuel Sanchis.

Victory, in what was a momentous quarter-final tie, ensured the Spaniards' place alongside Dynamo Kiev and Bayern Munich who stroled into the semifinals with all the ease and arrogance of champions-elect.

Kiev, the Soviet champion and winner of last season's Cup Winners' Cup, beat Besiktas Istanbul 2-0 to complete an overall 7-0 triumph just four days after winning 5-0 in Turkey.

The West German champion, who also led 5-0 after a dazzling display in Munich two weeks ago, drew 2-2 in Brussels with Anderlecht to win 7-2 overall and maintain its hopes of lifting again the Champions' Cup it dominated in the early 1970s.

Portuguese champion Porto stole through thanks to a late equaliser by Juury Filho in Denmark where it drew 1-1 with Breendyernes.

Kiev, enjoying a return to the Ukraine after its easy win in Izmir, played without four of its first-choice players, but still produced a high-class performance.

Second-half goals from veteran striker Oleg Blokhin and Vadim Yevushenko made up for a rare

miss from the penalty spot by Igor Belanov.

Bayern was tested a little more strenuously by Anderlecht who had bundled it out of the tournament at the same stage last season and needed a late equaliser to avoid an academic defeat on the night.

The Belgians, fired by hurt pride, played some superb attacking soccer and led twice through goals by Juan Lozano and Luc Nilis, but the West Germans hit back each time through Roland Wohlfarth and Lothar Mathews.

In the Cup Winners' Cup, Dutch international striker Marco Van Basten confirmed his return to fitness after injury and his reputation by scoring twice as Ajax Amsterdam beat Sweden's Malmö 3-1 for a 3-2 aggregate win.

Ajax, coached by former Dutch World Cup star Johan Cruyff, was joined in the semifinals by Bordeaux of France, who went down 3-2 away to Torpedo Moscow but scraped through on away goals. Real Zaragoza of Spain and Lokomotiv Leipzig of East Germany.

The Spaniards, 2-0 up from the first leg, completed a 4-0 aggregate win in Bulgaria against Vitosha Sofia while Leipzig drew 0-0 with Stion in Switzerland to clinch a 2-0 triumph.

In the UEFA Cup, both Italian clubs went out, Torino losing 2-1 at Swarovski Tirol of Austria on the night and on aggregate and Internazionale Milan being held 1-1 Gothenburg of Sweden who won through by virtue of its away goal in 1-1 aggregate draw.

Borussia Moenchengladbach of West Germany drew 2-2 away to Victoria Guibaraes to seal a 5-2 aggregate win.

W. German Graf emerges from Becker's shadow

By Nesha Starcevic
The Associated Press

FRANKFURT, West Germany (AP) — With a string of victories and her first major tournament title, Steffi Graf has moved out of the shadows cast by her competitors and the other big West German star, Boris Becker.

Martina Navratilova and Chris Evert Lloyd, long ranked 1-2 in women's tennis, both fell victim to Graf in the two-week-long International Players' Championship this month.

Graf's steady rise to challenge Navratilova and Lloyd at the top of women's tennis came as Becker, a two-time Wimbledon champion, faltered in his bid to become the no. 1 men's player.

Graf finally is grabbing an equal share of West German headlines and television appearances with Becker, a media darling in his homeland for the last two years.

The country's tennis programme, with a history of good players but never before world beaters, is in a very strong position. With Graf only 17 and Becker 19, that position is likely to remain strong for years to come.

"With Becker we have the no. 2 in the world and with Graf we'll probably have the no. 1 woman before the end of the year," Niki Pilić, West Germany's Davis Cup coach, said. "We have a lot of reasons to be happy with the situation of German tennis."

Graf was born in Brühl in central Germany, and Becker's family is from Leimen. The two villages are 20 kilometres apart, near Heidelberg, and Graf and Becker often practiced together at a tennis camp for talented youngsters.

Less than two years ago, Becker became a world star with his first Wimbledon triumph and has dominated the country's sports pages since.

With established stars such as John McEnroe and Jimmy Connors starting to show their age, and his own game improving, Becker shot to the no. 2 spot, behind Ivan Lendl.

But Lendl dominated their final meeting of 1986 and Becker has had an erratic start in 1987, winning one tournament but losing to lowly ranked Sergio Casal as Spain eliminated West Germany in the first round of the Davis Cup.

"I never suffered such a defeat before," Becker said after the 6-2, 0-6, 6-2, 6-3, loss. "But it happens. I will lose 1,000 more times in my life."

Graf's rise to stardom was less spectacular. But she, too, is now no. 2, behind Navratilova and ahead of Lloyd, whom she beat for the championship in the Key Biscayne, Florida, tournament.

Her form appears to be more consistent than Becker's and she is content to wait for her moment.

"I don't feel like no. 1 yet. I'm no. 2," she said. "But I became no. 2 much faster than I expected. I did beat Navratilova and Evert-Lloyd but it's not enough to make me no. 1 immediately. But I have many years in front of me."

While Becker seems to cultivate a glamorous image, Graf comes across as the girl next door, with a personality that has made her something of a hit on German television.

Graf says she doesn't have a boyfriend, can't imagine a day without tennis and calls her

father-manager, Peter Graf, "the most important man in my life — still."

But another man in her life may have provided the boost she needed to move within reach of the top spot.

Graf's game appears to have improved since Pavel Slozil of Czechoslovakia was hired in January to be her coach.

Her strongest weapon is an awesome forehand, which seems to have gained in power and precision.

Lloyd, after losing in 59 minutes to Graf in the Key Biscayne final, said the West German has "one of the best if not the best forehand in women's tennis."

"There is no reason why Steffi can't win all the major tournaments. She will be very hard to beat this year."

Before that loss, Lloyd never had dropped a set to Graf.

West German women's coach Klaus Hofmann, after watching Graf demolish rivals in Key Biscayne, described her victory as "a revolution."

Navratilova, who lost to Graf in a Key Biscayne semifinal that lasted just 56 minutes, said the teen-ager "today... is the best player in the world, and she will be the best until I beat her."

Graf won eight tournaments in 1986, including the Berlin Open final over Navratilova, but no Grand Slam events. She was forced to withdraw from Wimbledon because of illness and was eliminated in the late rounds at both the French and U.S. Opens.

"This is my target for 1987. I want to win a Grand Slam tournament," said Graf, who is aware that Becker was her age when he won Wimbledon for the first time.

Becker won six tournaments in 1986 and retained his Wimbledon singles title by beating Lendl in the final.

Unlike Graf, Becker seemed impatient to claim the no. 1 spot. He ended 1986 in tremendous form, winning three tournaments on three continents in three weeks.

Becker and his manager, Ion

Tricac, were quoted in West German newspapers as saying the teen-ager had a legitimate claim to no. 1 after winning three out of five encounters with Lendl in 1986.

But then came the season-ending Masters' Tournament in New York.

Lendl dished out a tennis lesson to Becker in the Masters final, subduing the German in three overwhelming sets.

Becker conceded after that defeat that he still had to work to overtake Lendl and returned home to join Graf in receiving honours as West Germany's man and woman athletes of the year.

Then came the Australian Open and one of the most difficult moments in Becker's short career.

After a stormy exit in an early round, Becker parted company with his longtime coach Ginter Bosch.

Among the many reasons for the split cited in West German newspapers was Becker's friendship with Benedict Courtain, the 23-year-old daughter of a police official in Monte Carlo, where Becker has taken up residence.

Bosch used to accompany Becker on all trips along with Tricac, spending all the time with his protegee both on and off the court.

But much of that off-court time was now taken by Courtain and Becker said he didn't need a coach who would be around him all the time.

Becker stays in Monte Carlo when not playing, both for tax reasons and to escape the suffocating attention of his German fans.

Graf, however, is a stay-at-home. After her Key Biscayne victory, she returned to West Germany for a ski vacation, and was welcomed with articles in every major weekly and appearances on the sports shows of the two national TV channels.

She says she is not jealous of Becker's fanatical following.

Liverpool's Rush sets 2 title target before move

LONDON (R) — Liverpool's prolific striker Ian Rush has set himself a double target before his forthcoming move to Italy as his team steps up its quest for another English League and Cup triumph.

Rush scored his 200th and 201st goals for the club when it beat Queen's Park Rangers 2-1 Wednesday night to go nine points clear at the top of the First Division, and said: "I want a League Championship medal and a League Cup Winners' medal."

Liverpool, who won the league title and Football Association (F.A.) Cup last season, faces Arsenal in the League Cup final on April 5 and is characteristically pacing to perfection the last lap of the championship race.

Welsh international Rush, who is to join Juventus for \$3.2 million at the end of the season, said: "It doesn't matter if I've scored 200 or 300 — all I am interested in is scoring."

Liverpool's Danish international midfielder Jan Molby said of Rush: "I don't know what we will do without Ian when he leaves. We may be depending on him too much."

Liverpool continues its championship defence at Tottenham on Sunday. The London side has an outside chance of the crown but ultimately its efforts may founder because it has too much ground to make up, its deficit being 17 points with five games in hand.

Everton, edged out at the climax to the 1985-86 championship, again poses the main threat to Liverpool. It is second, with two matches in hand, and manager Howard Kendall said: "We still have to play Liverpool and Arsenal, both away, and I would not rule out anyone at this stage."

Everton is at home today to relegation-threatened Charlton, who beat Kendall's side 3-2 in its first league meeting last October, and again at its Goodison Park ground in a minor cup competition recently.

Dundee United returns from its outstanding UEFA Cup quarter-final triumph in Barcelona to pursue its Scottish Premier Division title ambitions with a significant match at home to leader Rangers today.

Third-placed Dundee United, six points behind Rangers with two games in hand, goes into the clash in the wake of what its manager Jim McLean described as "our greatest performance in Europe."

United pulled off a 2-1 second leg win to go into the last four 3-1 on aggregate, and Terry Venables, English manager of Barcelona's multi-million pound squad, said: "I have to say that United can win the cup now. Just one look at its remaining opponents indicates that it must have an excellent chance."

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Prince Ra'd patronises 'Sports for All'

AQABA (Petra) — Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, chairman of the Jordan Sports Federation for the Handicapped, Friday patronised the first "Sport for All" race, held here on the occasion of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan's birthday. 350 runners took part in the race, and were divided into three categories according to their ages. At the end of the race, Prince Ra'd presented the winner with the cup of the Aqaba Region Authority, while he presented other winners with medals.

Jordan, Bahrain draw in friendly match

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan and Bahrain played to a scoreless draw in a soccer friendly held in Bahrain Friday night. The match was the second friendly played between the two clubs in preparation for the Olympic qualifying rounds. In the West Asia Group 2 first round, Jordan will take on the United Arab Emirates on April 3 in Amman.

15 injured in collapse of grandstand

CHEL TENHAM, England (AP) — At least 15 people were injured when a section of grandstand roof on which they were standing at Cheltenham Race Course collapsed, authorities said. Ambulance crews said they were taking five of the injured to Cheltenham General Hospital with "quite serious" back injuries. Five other people were being hospitalised for less serious injuries, while another five were categorised as "walking wounded," the crews said Thursday.

Karpov postpones 10th chess game

LINARES, Spain (AP) — Anatoly Karpov took a time out Thursday postponing the 10th game of his world chess championship candidates final with Andrei Sokolov until Sunday. Karpov leads the 14-game contest 5.5-3.5 and requires only two points from the remaining five games to win the right to challenge fellow Soviet Gari Kasparov for his world title in the autumn. A win scores one point and a draw one half. Sokolov has already used one of his two time outs, leaving both players one time out each for the final stages of the match.

Coe wins Spanish sport award

OVIEDO, Spain (R) — Sebastian Coe, world 800 metre record holder and double Olympic 1,500 metre champion, was awarded Friday the Prince of Asturias prize, the first time Spain's prestigious annual awards have included sport. The jury, headed by Olympic chief Juan Antonio Samaranch, was instructed to find the person, group of people or institution which had achieved new goals or had contributed to perfecting, promoting or spreading sport. The Prince of Asturias award, which is worth 2 million pesetas (\$15,000) in named after the title held by the heir to the Spanish throne Prince Felipe. They also cover the arts, human rights and journalism and, in Spanish-speaking countries, rival the Nobel prizes in prestige.

British player first with pacemaker

LONDON (R) — Chris Hemming has made soccer history by becoming the first professional player to be fitted with a heart pacemaker. Hemming, a defender who will be 21 next month, had the pacemaker fitted last summer after persistent breathing problems. But his club Stoke, lying seventh in the English League Second Division, has only just released the news. Hemming, who joined Stoke from school, complained two years ago of breathing difficulties. He forced his way into the first team last season but was still struggling to finish games. Last Tuesday night he came through a game without difficulty as Stoke beat Second Division Rivals Sunderland 3-0.

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<p>Cinema Tel: 677420</p> <p>CONCORD</p> <p>KARMEN</p> <p>Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p>Cinema Tel: 625155</p> <p>RAINBOW</p> <p>CHARLIE CHAN THE CURSE OF THE DRAGON QUEEN</p> <p>Performances 3:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p>Cinema Tel: 675573</p> <p>OPERA</p> <p>ZAPPED</p> <p>Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p>Cinema Tel: 677420</p> <p>PLAZA</p> <p>TOP GUN</p> <p>Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p>Cinema Tel: 622198</p> <p>RAGHADAN</p> <p>HIGHLANDER</p> <p>Performances 12:15, 3:00, 5:00, 9:45</p>
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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets on Friday.

One sterling	1.5975/85	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3122/27	Canadian dollar
	1.8297/8307	West German marks
	2.0670/80	Dutch guilders
	1.5325/35	Swiss francs
	37.91/94	Belgian francs
	6.8885/95	French francs
	1301/1302	Italian lire
	151.50/60	Japanese yen
	6.3930/30	Swedish crowns
	6.9190/9240	Norwegian crowns
	6.8840/8900	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	404.80/405.30	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities moved to record levels Friday on new-account buying prompted to some extent by Thursday's record high on Wall Street, dealers said. The advance was also fuelled by a cut in mortgage rates by two of the U.K.'s leading mortgage loan companies which was seen as boosting consumer demand in the near term. Friday's higher opening on Wall Street, where the Dow Jones average moved above 2,300, also helped push prices higher. At 1530 GMT Friday the FTSE 100 was up 20.4 at 2,011.4 compared with a previous best of 2,021.5 on March 4 and a closing high of 2,006.3 on Thursday. Dealers said confidence that U.K. bank base lending rates will come down another 1/2 point to 9 1/2 per cent within the next two weeks market account was helping to underpin prices, although such a cut was to a large extent already discounted. Base rates were last in single figures at the end of 1984. They said Thursday's worries that the U.K. government's plans to raise some £4.8 billion via the sale of its stake in the B.P. oil company would take the edge of this year's rally would seem to have been forgotten. "There was bound to be some profit-taking after the budget and many investors saw the B.P. sale news as a timely point to do so," one dealer added.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This first day of spring will allow you to make some decisions that tie you down to a course of action for a long time to come. Your past experiences will serve you well.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) A person with a different background than your own can be of assistance now. Cultivate this individual wisely.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Get together with a clever person in business and plan how to get your affairs on a more secure ground.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Accept that outside outlet that can be helpful to you now. Be very social tonight and enjoy yourself.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Plan how best to handle your routine responsibilities in the days ahead and become more efficient.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Take your mate along with you on some recreation for double the pleasure. This can make for a better understanding.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Invite friends in that you have not seen in a long time. This can bring happiness to all.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Concentrate on how to better communicate with others. Visit a friend you have known for years.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Study your monetary plans and then contact an important person who can give you the backing you need.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Although you like to do whatever you please, it is wiser now to make a practical plan.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Sit down with advisors and make a plan for the future. Show your mate you want the relationship to last.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You are noted for being gregarious, but it behooves you now to be more selective.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Plan how to gain the prestige that you truly want. Contact influential people who can be most helpful.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he, or she, will know what is best for him, or her, and will trend the energy in such directions for a steadfast path to success. Teach this one to develop a sense of humor and thereby get along better with others. One who deserves a fine education in modern schools.

Turkey's car industry booms

ISTANBUL (R) — Turkey's car industry is experiencing a boom, with a steep 36 per cent increase in sales last year spilling over into 1987.

Car demand in January jumped 34 per cent over the same month last year, the Automotive Industry Association reported, and manufacturers are planning to boost already stretched capacity.

The number of imported cars, however, fell sharply to around 7,000 last year from 12,806 in 1985, mainly due to high prices and servicing problems, importers say.

And recession in the Middle East and a government austerity programme at home has cut deeply into the production of trucks and tractors.

Turkey's three domestic car manufacturers, all joint ventures with foreign firms, produced 82,032 units last year compared with 60,353 in 1985, the automotive association says.

The rise in demand stemmed mainly from the good economic climate, from falling deposit interest rates and stable petrol prices, according to Mr. Savas Satioglu of Tofas Oto Ticaret A.S. told Reuters.

Tofas manufactures Fiat 131 cars under licence, using the name Murat. It was the leading producer last year with an output of 42,117 units.

Mr. Satioglu said demand is so high that waiting lists run up to eight months. New cars are sold on the second-hand market with a mark-up of around 20 per cent over the cost of 4.3 million liras (\$5,580) for a standard four-door Sedan.

Prices generally increased 30 per cent last year.

"We are planning to increase our capacity to over 45,000 cars this year and to 65,000 in 1988," Mr. Satioglu said.

The company wants to boost investment in its factory in Bursa, south of Istanbul, to expand production to 100,000 cars a year in five years, he added.

One of Turkey's leading business conglomerates, Koc Holding A.S., is a partner at Tofas with Italy's Fiat, and with Ford (U.K.) at Otosan Otomobil Sanayi A.S., the number three maker with 6,974 cars produced last year.

In second spot is Oyak Renault Otomobil Fabrikalari A.S., a joint venture between France's Regie Renault and the Turkish armed forces pension fund Oyak. Its 1986 output of Renault 9 cars was 32,941.

When Ford ended its Cortina line in Britain, it shipped the production equipment to Turkey, where Otosan now makes Cortina under the brand name Taurus.

Industry officials say there are no plans at present to manufacture a Turkish car, although Otosan is known to have some designs and proto-types for an ultra-compact.

Turkey, with a population of 51 million, had nearly 984,000 cars registered in 1985, according to an estimate in the government's 1987 economic programme.

High costs and repair problems combine to keep foreign cars out of the market, however.

United Nations report blames banks for prolonging Third World debt crisis

UNITED NATIONS (OPECNA) — International banks are mostly to blame for prolonging the debt crisis in the developing world, according to a report prepared by the U.N. Commission on Transnational Corporations.

The 27-page document, submitted to the U.N.'s Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), says that while recession in the industrialised countries during the early 1980s, precipitated the crisis, changes in the behaviour of international banks made things worse, according to Kuwait News Agency (KUNA).

The problem was aggravated by rising interest rates, as loan contracts between developing countries and transnational banks were tied to floating interest rates.

Entitled "The Role of Transnational Banks: Operations, Strategies And Their Effects in Developing Countries," the report notes that during the 1970s when prospects for the export earnings of creditworthy developing countries seemed bright, credit availability was "practically unlimited."

However, after Mexico suspended payments to creditor banks in 1982, and it became clear that a number of debtor countries were also facing severe debt-servicing difficulties, voluntary financing from the international banks practically disappeared.

According to statistics cited in the report, bank lending declined from \$52 billion in 1981 to about \$13 billion in 1985.

As a proportion of total flows to developing countries, bank lending fell from a high of 37.5 per cent in 1981 to about 16 per cent in 1985.

"Thus the trend towards privatisation in the external capital flows of developing countries that can be observed during the period 1970-81 was abruptly reversed, and, at present, bank lending represents about the same proportion of total external capital flows as it did in 1970," the report says.

In spite of the fact that international banks have been unwilling to increase their exposure to developing countries, the debt rescheduling agreements that have been concluded since 1982 have included disbursements of "new money."

It points out that the banks have been forced into lending more money in the hope of a future recovery of their large assets in the indebted countries.

According to statistics accompanying the report, the total debt of the Latin American countries rose from \$330.7 billion in 1982 to \$372.9 billion in 1985.

Whereas in 1982, 57.2 per cent of the debt was owed to banks, the figure rose to 65.5 per cent by the end of 1985, according to the report.

WASHINGTON (R) — A top International Monetary Fund (IMF) official has resigned, charging the United States pressured the agency to lower conditions it places on some loans, monetary sources said Thursday.

The sources said Mr. C. David Finch, in a statement considered unprecedented, told the board that the United States had brought undue pressure on the IMF to approve funding for Zaire and Egypt.

"To resign in this manner is highly unusual, perhaps unprecedented," a monetary source said.

Mr. Finch, an Australian who heads the IMF's exchange and

trade relations department, told the IMF executive board he planned to leave by the end of next month after 37 years with the agency.

Neither Mr. Finch nor the U.S. IMF representative, Mr. Charles Dallara, could be reached for comment.

Since the emergence of the debt crisis in 1982, the IMF has pressed many countries to tighten their belts and cut back on social spending as conditions to granting assistance.

The United States recently has been taking the position that countries that take needed economic reform measures — relying

"Although in the debt renegotiation exercises the banks have steadfastly maintained their refusal to reschedule interest payments, in actual fact the new credits have amounted to the capitalisation of a portion of those payments," it says.

"However, new gross credits have been insufficient to cover outflows of interest and repayment of principal, and the region as a whole has had to sustain heavy negative transfers of resources to the banks," it adds.

The total negative transfer of resources abroad from Latin America — total net capital inflows minus payments of interest and profit remittances — between 1982-85 are estimated at almost \$108 billion, most of which is accounted for by net transfers to the international banking system.

"Up to the present time, the costs of adjustment have fallen almost exclusively on the debtor countries," the report concludes.

Whatever the ultimate solution to the debt crisis turns out to be, it will have to include relief to the debtor countries and recognition by the banks that the market value of their developing country loan portfolios is considerably lower than their nominal value, the report concludes.

But it has taken almost six months to complete putting together a \$7.5 billion loan to Mexico, and the delay caused misgivings here about the likelihood of such large straight cash loans being assembled ever again.

So there is keen interest in new ways of getting money channelled to debtor nations.

U.S. officials want banks to consider swapping more of their debt for shares in local corporations — a development that has met success in Chile and Mexico.

They also want them to pin loans on specific projects, to finance trade and invest directly in business — forms of lending which they say offer them a greater stake and more secure return.

The Reagan administration has also signalled support for new techniques that in some cases effectively amount to interest rate concessions. It pressed banks to let Chile make annual, not bi-annual interest payments, speeding an accord with Chile.

Until recently, some banks did not favour what they saw as unwarranted interest rate concessions. But a U.S. official said shoving

considered seriously by banks. An agreement with the banks, officials now say, is expected soon.

Efforts to ease the debt crisis have redoubled this year after Brazil, the biggest Third World debtor, suspended interest payments on loans by commercial banks.

The U.S. strategy remains basically the 1985 "Baker plan."

Launched in October, 1985, it called on commercial and multilateral banks to lend \$29 billion over three years to debtors which made reforms to promote inflation-free growth in their economies.

The administration official, who plays a key role in keeping the plan afloat, said:

"New bank lending has been slow in materialising, but the fact of the matter is there have been \$70 billion in bank loans restructured, which is a form of extension of credit. As you know, there's been \$8.5 billion in new money."

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charges brought by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

He also agreed to plead guilty to an unspecified criminal charge and is cooperating with the government investigation, which has spread fear through the Wall Street community.

Mr. Jefferies, 36, resigned as chairman of Jefferies Group Inc., which he built into a major force in the securities industry by trading stocks outside of traditional stock markets. The company has been one of the fastest growing with one of the highest profit margins of all brokers.

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interest was realistic if debtors made reforms.

"The debtors have been performing well. Some people argue that taking 1 1/2 per cent down to 13/16 per cent is debt forgiveness," he said.

"Well if that's what it is, fine. What it really is a narrowing of the spread that could be charged on new money," the official noted.

Administration officials, who asked not to be named, have also debated whether to allow U.S. banks greater flexibility in building up loan loss reserves against Third World loans.

An existing rule, called FASB-15, says banks facing delayed interest payments on real estate loans need not set aside reserves against debt principal, if it is believed payments will resume.

The rule has been extended to cover loans to the depressed farm and energy sectors of the U.S. economy and Senator Bill Bradley, a New Jersey Democrat, now suggests extending it to Third World loans.

He is prominent among congressmen urging that provisions for debt relief be attached to new trade legislation. But officials said the debate has been inconclusive.

Brazil, meanwhile, followed up its moratorium on interest payments with a world tour by officials seeking a political way out from under its debt burden. It is beset by a falling trade surplus and dwindling reserves.

An official at Washington talks with Brazilian Finance Minister Dilson Funaro said: "They've come in here now and said 'look, we're out of money, help us,' but they haven't come in with a plan. And they've gone all over the world, and at every stop they've been told the same thing."

The official said Brazil would have to enact a credible economic programme, either in consultation with the World Bank or International Monetary Fund, to cool an overheated economy before commercial banks would begin negotiations.

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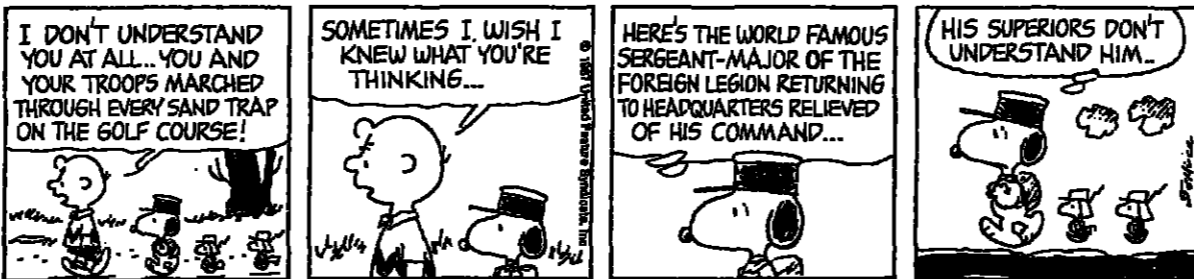
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Peanuts



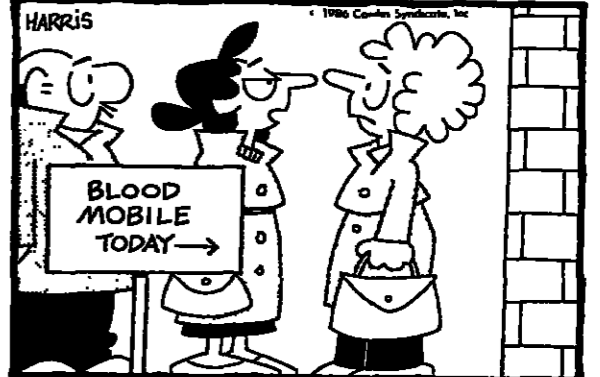
Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp

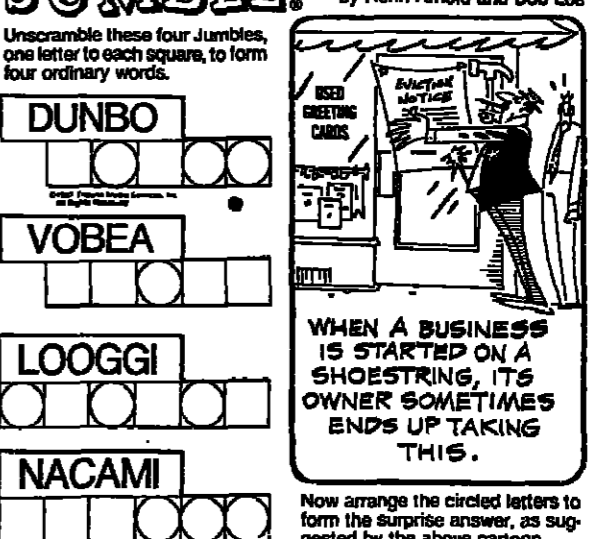


THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



"He donated a pint of Bloody Marys to the Red Cross, so they can aid hangover victims."

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Ariane chief hints at East Bloc being behind alleged spy ring

France charges 6 for spying on rocket motor

PARIS (R) — The head of the European Space Programme said Friday six people charged with spying on the Ariane rocket motor were probably working for the East Bloc.

Interviewed on French Radio, Ariane's Chairman Frederic d'Allest, named the Soviet Union, India and Brazil as countries which might be interested in European space technology to help their satellite launching programmes.

"But I do not want to give any false leads — it looks as if it (the alleged spy ring) was aimed at the East Bloc," Mr. d'Allest said.

Among the six charged in the northern city of Rouen on Wednesday are women from the Soviet Union and Romania, as well as their French husbands.

They are suspected of spying on the design of the booster motors of the 13-member European Space Agency's Ariane rocket. Engineers are trying to

perfect its delicate third stage which has twice failed to ignite properly, causing launches to be suspended.

The Ariane programme, run by the Ariane consortium of Western European nations, has focused on the launch of communications satellites from a space centre at Kourou, French Guiana.

"This is a serious affair ... a judicial inquiry is under way," said a spokesman for Ariane, who added that the consortium had been alerted to the case by the DST counter espionage service.

Rocket motors for the unmanned Ariane series are tested and manufactured by the Societe Europeenne de Propulsion (SEP)

at the state-owned company's tightly-guarded plant in the town of Vernon, 80 kilometres north west of Paris.

Another SEP complex in Bordeaux makes propulsion systems for France's land-based nuclear missiles.

Judicial sources said two of those charged in the affair, Michel Fleury and Pierre Verdier, were engineering graduates from France's elite Ecole Polytechnique college.

Verdier and his wife, Soviet-born Lyudmila Vargina, who was also arrested, both worked for a Scientific Research Institute in Rouen, the sources said. They named the second woman, from Romania, as Antonetta Manole.

"It appears as if the rocket motors were the target of this espionage operation, but we don't know anything about what they took," an SEP spokesman said.

"The motors are the most expensive and delicate part of a rocket and therefore a logical target," he added, citing the sophistication of motors fuelled by a mixture of liquid oxygen and hydrogen.

Such propulsion systems, known as HM-7 cryogenic motors, power the third stage of Ariane rockets and use particularly complex and accident-prone high-technology.

Faulty third stage ignition have caused the failure of two out of the last four Ariane launches and parts of the system are currently being redesigned at the Vernon works.

The failures have seriously delayed the Ariane programme, which is the main rival to the United States' NASA agency in the lucrative satellite launch market. The U.S. launch capability has also been upset by the space shuttle disaster.

14 West German nuclear plant workers contaminated

HANAU, West Germany (R) — Fourteen employees at a West German nuclear plant have been contaminated with plutonium and at least 10 workers of a nearby laboratory may also have received radiation overdoses, plant officials said.

Altogether 67 people were being checked for contamination at the nuclear processing plant Nukem near Frankfurt and a further 125 were being examined at the laboratory in Karlsruhe, only 32 kilometres away, they said.

A spokesman for Nukem said 14 workers had been contaminated with plutonium and 67 people were being checked after possible exposure.

Scientists say plutonium is one of the most toxic substances in the world and contamination can cause cancer.

A spokesman for Kraftwerk Union, the owners of a radiological laboratory at Karlsruhe, said 10 employees had possibly been contaminated after coming into contact with small quantities of

americium, a radioactive metallic element, up to two years ago.

The Kraftwerk-Union spokesman said 45 workers had already been tested for contamination in Karlsruhe. The Bavarian government in Munich said it would test a further 80 people employed at the laboratory during the time of the contamination.

Nukem processes uranium for the manufacture of fuel rods for reactors, but a batch of uranium from a research institute in Karlsruhe last month was contaminated with plutonium, a by-product of uranium processing.

A spokesman for the Hesse State government in Wiesbaden said investigators were still trying to find out what happened at Nukem, which is at the centre of a political row in Hesse.

Disagreement over Nukem and other nuclear establishments in Hesse between the Social Democrats and the anti-nuclear Greens Party in the state led to the collapse of their governing coalition, forcing an early election next month.

TASS: Reagan preparing to scrap ABM agreement

MOSCOW (Agencies) — U.S. President Ronald Reagan's remarks at a White House news conference indicate he is preparing to scrap the superpower ABM treaty, the Soviet news agency TASS said Friday.

The news agency said Mr. Reagan acknowledged during the Thursday night news conference that a narrow interpretation of the 1972 ABM (Anti-Ballistic Missile) treaty could set back the U.S. "Star Wars" space-based missile defence programme.

TASS called the narrow interpretation of the treaty "the original and only correct" one, indicating the Kremlin still opposes the broader interpretation set forth by some U.S. officials who say it would permit "Star Wars" research.

TASS said Mr. Reagan asserted that his administration had not taken a final decision on how to interpret the ABM treaty, but the agency added:

"In what looks to be a clear bid to pave the way not only for a broader interpretation of the agreement in question, but also for torpedoing it, the president accused the Soviet Union of 'going beyond' the treaty limits."

"The same pretext is known to have been used by the United States for torpedoing SALT-II," the agency said.

Last December, the United States deployed a bomber carrying nuclear-tipped cruise mis-

siles that put it over weapons ceilings set by the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT-II) concluded in 1979 but never ratified by the U.S. Senate.

The Communist Party daily Pravda said that a Congress vote on March 18 defeating a bill that would have stopped more than \$40 million of military aid to Nicaraguan right-wing rebels was an immoral decision.

"The whole world saw yet again what much-praised American democracy looks like in reality when a bunch of senators who obediently bowed to the president passed an immoral decision supporting an illegal policy," it said.

In another development, the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said Thursday Soviet officials were disappointed that a U.S. State Department official brought no new proposals to solve regional problems when he visited Moscow earlier this week.

Gennady Gerasimov's assessment contrasted with the more positive view of U.S.-Soviet relations that Michael Armatage, under-secretary of state for political affairs, gave reporters before he left Moscow on Wednesday.

Mr. Armatage said there had been improvements in many areas of U.S.-Soviet relations, and that he sensed the will to work out an agreement ridding Europe of U.S. and Soviet medium-range nuclear missiles.

Aquino 'peevish' at U.S. meddling; rebels kill 18

MANILA (R) — President Corason Aquino was said Friday to be "peevish" at a U.S. official's criticism of her government's conduct of the war against Communist rebels, as the military reported 18 more soldiers have been killed in that war.

Presidential Press Secretary Teodoro Benigno said a group of middle-level military officers who met Mrs. Aquino Friday had also made clear they "deeply resented" statements by U.S. Assistance Secretary for Defence Richard Armitage.

Benigno said the officers told Mrs. Aquino that Mr. Armitage "had no business telling us what to do."

"The president was obviously peeved. She did not make any statement but she reacted sympathetically to the soldiers' sentiments that Armitage had no business shooting his mouth off," he told reporters.

The military said rebels killed 18 soldiers Thursday in a daylight ambush of a company of foot patrol in a forest.

The clash on the southern island of Mindanao was the second major rebel success this week. They killed 19 troops in another ambush in the northern Philippines on Tuesday.

Mr. Armitage told a congressional Foreign Affairs Sub-Committee hearing in Washington that the Aquino government "had regrettably failed to develop a comprehensively counter-insurgency plan that integrates military, political, economic and social programmes."

He said full-time soldiers in the Communist New People's Army had increased by nine per cent to 24,430 since Mrs. Aquino came to power a year ago.

Over 900 Bangladeshi tribesmen die in camps

DHAKA (R) — More than 900 tribespeople who fled to India last year to escape a separatist tribal guerrilla war in southern Bangladesh have died of diarrhoea, dysentery and malaria, a government-owned newspaper reported Friday.

Hundreds of others are close to death after months of near-starvation in refugee camps in the eastern Indian state of Tripura, the Dainik Bangla quoted refugees as saying.

The refugees said physically-fit young tribesmen were forced to join the outlawed Shanti Bahini (peace force) rebels after training, the newspaper reported.

The Bangladesh Foreign Ministry declined to comment on the report. The refugee camps are run by the Indian government.

The Shanti Bahini seek autonomy for the 14,200 square kilometre Chittagong Hill Tracts area bordering India and Burma.

The newspaper said more than 100 tribesmen had returned to the hill tracts, "escaping eyes" of the Indian Border Security Force. It said rebels were detaining others willing to return.

Foreign Ministry officials in Dhaka said more than 24,000 Bangladeshi tribespeople had crossed into Tripura since last May to escape fighting between Shantis and troops, but India was delaying their repatriation "for unknown reasons."

Indian officials have said the refugees fear persecution if they go home.

Mrs. Aquino's Executive Secretary Joker Arroyo responded: "Between Defence Secretary (Rafael) Iletto and Secretary Armitage, I would rather listen to Mr. Iletto who says we have a counter-insurgency programme."

Benigno said the officers who met Mrs. Aquino shared her view that the insurgency problem could not be solved by military means alone.

Air Force Colonel Jose Comendador said the group told Mrs. Aquino the military should not be the only ones involved in counter-insurgency.

Asked if they were satisfied with the present campaign, he said: "There are some things that need to be done like driving the rebels back to the hills." He did not elaborate.

Friday's meeting between Mrs. Aquino and soldiers at the presidential palace was the sixth she has called to improve her relations with the military, Benigno said.

Meanwhile, a disclosure by a top army officer cast doubt Friday on claims that Philippine Communist rebels were to blame for the bombing of a military academy on Wednesday which killed four people.

Brigadier-General Jesus De La Cruz said Soviet-made explosive used in the bombing was part of an arms shipment seized by the Philippine military 15 years ago.

The Soviet-made B-40 anti-tank explosive was used as one of three bombs, which exploded together in a grandstand at the Philippine military academy in Baguio city on Wednesday, killing four people and injuring about 40.

Reagan defends his management style

WASHINGTON (R) — A newly-confident President Reagan has defended his hands-off management style as proper and sought to deflect widespread criticism his detached approach had allowed the Iran arms scandal to occur.

Mr. Reagan, appearing at his first formal news conference since his latest political crisis erupted last November, easily fielded some tough questions — including this one on whether he was in full control of the reins of power:

"If you were truly unaware of the millions of dollars going to the Contras (Nicaragua's rebels) ... what does that say about your management style?" the reporter asked.

Mr. Reagan responded, "I have been reading a great deal about my management style ... It was a proper management style. You get the best people you can to do a job and then you don't hang over their shoulders

Lisbon, Peking prepare text of Macao accord

PEKING (R) — Chinese and Portuguese officials will work over the weekend to prepare draft texts of an agreement on the future of Macao, Portuguese Ambassador to China Octavio Valerio said Friday.

Mr. Valerio told Reuters the documents should be submitted to a formal session of talks on Monday, which he hoped would be the last one.

Mr. Valerio would not comment on the substance of the three-day talks, but earlier he said no problems remained.

He said the papers would be printed in Portuguese, Chinese and English. They would be slightly less voluminous than the extensive paperwork involved in the 1984 Sino-British agreement to hand back nearby Hong Kong to Peking in 1997.

Western diplomats said China was keen to have a prompt agreement on the return of the 15.5 square kilometre South China territory, which a 16th century emperor allowed the Portuguese to establish as trading post.

An agreement on Monday would allow Chinese leaders to announce to the National People's Congress (parliament) session starting next Wednesday that

Macao would be returned to Chinese rule by the end of this century. Portuguese sources say the handover date will probably be 20 December, 1999.

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said an important announcement would be made at the end of the present round of talks, the fourth since negotiations started in mid-1986.

In Lisbon, a meeting Friday of Portugal's State Council to discuss the transfer of Macao to China has been postponed until Saturday because President Mario Soares is ill, an official spokeswoman said.

"The president is still suffering from a fever apparently as a result of mild food poisoning and the meeting is now scheduled for tomorrow afternoon," the spokeswoman told Reuters.

Portugal's State Council, which groups Mr. Soares's close aides and leading political figures from the government and opposition, was expected to review details of the handover.

The council has no executive powers and was convened to advise Mr. Soares who, under the constitution, has special responsibility for Macao.

'Close Franco-German guerrilla link confirmed'

WIESBADEN, West Germany (R) — Weapons, car number plates and documents found after the arrest of four alleged French Action Directe terrorists proved they had close links with West German urban guerrillas, the West German Federal Crime Bureau (BKA) said Friday.

It said the evidence showed all four had spent time in West Germany and may have taken part in Red Army Faction attacks.

The BKA said three hand-guns found by French police were stolen from a West German gun shop in a November 1984 raid attributed to the Red Army Faction.

West German personal documents recovered by French authorities were filled out in the same way as by the Red Army Faction.

Some papers belonged to a car believed to have been used in connection with a bomb attack on the U.S. Air Force Base in Frankfurt in August 1985, in which two people were killed.

The BKA said it was already known that Action Directe leader Georges Cipriani had lived and worked in West Germany from 1972 to 1983 and they appealed for help in tracing his movements as well as those of his three accomplices, Nathalie Meunier, Jean Marc Roullan and Joelle Aubron.

It listed pseudonyms the four may have used, noting that Cipriani had lived in Wiesbaden under the name of Stephan Broeckx, Roullan had lived there as Robert Rudy Huys, and Aubron had lived in Frankfurt as Simone Barnstein.

The BKA also asked people to notify police of cars which appeared to have been abandoned, since they might have been used by terrorists.

BKA chief Heinrich Boge told the Neue Osnabruecker Zeitung newspaper the French findings strengthened suspicions that a "West European guerrilla" group existed which transcended national borders.

Soviet airliner skids off runway in Newfoundland

GANDER, Newfoundland (R) — A Soviet Aeroflot airliner swerved off a runway and its wing sliced through a snowbank as it landed at Gander International Airport.

Canadian Transport Department officials said none of the 190 passengers and crew aboard the IL-68 jetliner were injured but the cover was torn off one engine and several runway lights were

smashed. Airport Manager John Pittman said Thursday Canadian officials were investigating why the aircraft landed well off the centre of the runway during good weather conditions.

Passengers were taken to nearby hotels to wait for another Aeroflot plane to arrive to resume the flight to Moscow from Havana.

COLUMNS 7 & 8

Egypt to show treasures in France

CAIRO (R) — Gold and silver treasures from the Pharaonic site of Tanis, as magnificent as the relics of King Tutankhamen, will go on display in Paris next week, Egypt's antiquities head has said. An exhibition of 68 pieces of 3,000-year-old jewellery, gold and silver vessels and funerary equipment will be opened at the Grand Palais in the French capital next Wednesday by the wives of Presidents Francois Mitterrand and Hosni Mubarak. The pieces have been insured for \$24 million. Mr. Ahmad Kadry, chairman of the government's Antiquities Department, told a news conference. "We have taken every possible precaution to ensure the safety of the monuments," he said.

Man kisses Queen Mom after big win

CHELTEMHAM, England (R) — A happy Irish butcher, celebrating a big win in a horse race, provoked a brief security alarm by kissing Queen Mother Elizabeth on the cheek, eyewitnesses said. Miceil Bailey, 33, had just won £50,000 (\$80,000) by backing the winner in the Cheltenham Gold Cup. He approached the 86-year-old Queen Mother in the racecourse's winners' enclosure to shake her hand. He then kissed her, which she did nothing to prevent, despite attempts by racecourse officials to stop him. Bailey told the Queen Mother: "You're a wonderful lady, ma'am, and we all love you. I hope you live to be 130." She replied: "Oh, you are an awful chap."

Swazi king's wedding postponed

MBABANE (R) — The wedding of Swaziland's 19-year-old king, due to have started Thursday, has been postponed indefinitely, an official statement has said. King Mswati III, the youngest monarch in the world, was to have married teenager Sibonelo Mngomezulu, the daughter of an Anglican priest, in traditional ceremonies which would have ended on Sunday. The statement by the king's private secretary, Zephania Hlatshwayo, gave no reason for the postponement. King Mswati, who ascended the throne last April, selected Mngomezulu during annual traditional dances by thousands of Swazi maidens in the capital Mbabane. Under the customs of his deeply conservative southern African kingdom King Mswati is expected to take many wives during his reign. Mngomezulu was to have become the king's first wife this week.

Moment of triumph ends in tears

PONTYPRIDD, Wales (AP) — The crowd cheered as a beaming Sharon Gardiner took the throne to be crowned Miss Wales for 1987. Her triumph lasted two minutes. After declaring the 23-year-old the winner of the contest, Emcees Eric Morley announced there had been a mixup. The real winner was Nicola Davies, 18. Morley said the official vote-counter, known as a scrutineer, had handed him a slip of paper with Miss Gardiner's name on it. "When I announced the result, the scrutineer suddenly realised he had made a mistake and ran across and handed me the right result," he said. "There was not much I could do but to put it right straight away." Miss Gardiner, a receptionist, left the stage of Pontypridd Municipal Hall in tears.

Goodwill letter lures suspects into jail

HOUSTON (R) — More than 200 people lured to a Houston insurance office by the promise of an inheritance were clapped into handcuffs instead, police has said. Suspects wanted for crimes ranging from burglary to rape came from as far away as New York and Mexico after police sent them letters saying they had come into money and should claim it at the insurance company office. Police waiting in the office arrested 218 people. "This was the most successful operation of its kind in the nation in terms of the number of suspects caught," police Lieutenant Paul Dugger said.

Rajneesh orders disciples to get AIDS tests

BOULDER, Colorado (AP) — Guru Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh wants his disciples to get tested for AIDS every three months and especially before they visit his temple in India, according to the editor of the Rajneesh newspaper. "To go to the Ashram (temple) in (Poon) India, or participate in any activities associated with the Bhagwan, requires that they are AIDS negative — or they can't participate," Managing Editor Ma Kranti Hina said Tuesday in a telephone interview with the Associated Press. "We have to take the test every three months as an additional precaution." Hina said the Ashram erroneously has been called a "free love commune" because "many, many years ago people were erroneously calling Bhagwan the 'sex guru'." The reason behind it was society is basically sexually repressed," he said. "It was misrepresented very often into him promoting sex, but he was actually promoting personal freedom."

MARKETING MANAGER

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GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠K982 ♣9 ♠AQ85 ♣8782
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South
1 ♠ 2 ♠ 7
What action do you take?

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AQ85 ♣85 ♠AJ63 ♣8682
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
3 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠KJ72 ♣8842 ♠A ♠A107
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North
1 ♠ Pass Pass 1 ♠

Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AK96 ♣778 ♠AJ5 ♣AJ106
The first three players all pass. What is your opening bid?

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AK ♣AJ85 ♠83 ♣KQJ66
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.6—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠7 ♣AJ1084 ♠KJ72 ♣K983
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ Double 2 ♠ ?
What do you bid now?

Just in case